

王ドロボウJING

KING OF BANDITS

TOKYOPOP®



YUICHI KUMAKURA

KING OF BANDITS

王ドロボウJING



YUICHI KUMAKURA

Manga
Fantasy
USA \$9.99

Those little dots on dice
Are nothing more than mutterings
Of God on high, caught in between
The dawn of birth
And death's cold sting

-Prayer often chanted by gamblers in Aviation
while playing satoroku.



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All that glitters...

Even the stars

All things precious...

Even your life

エドロボウ
J I N G
新 装 版
S I X



here's looking at you babe.



The King of Bandits
Can steal it all
In the blink of an eye

jing & kir in SD style

*nobody calls
me egg!!?*



nobody calls me baby!!!

Is this boy explosive?



王ロボウJING

KING OF BANDITS

VOLUME 6 OF 7

STORY AND ART BY
YUICHI KUMAKURA



Los Angeles • Tokyo • London

across the fuzzy navel



Once upon a midnight dreary a thief named Jing was weak and weary.
Many strange and forgotten lands he did traverse and explore.
His companion was a bird named Kir, his black wings a-flapping.
While Jing nodded, nearly napping, Kir saw booty galore.
"Wake up, Jing," Kir muttered, "all around us is loot galore."
Treasure from ceiling to floor!

Thus, this ebony bird's willing, sent Jing's sad face into smiling,
For Jing could steal the stars from the sky, thievery he truly did adore.
The albatross sat proudly on Jing's placid bust, his beady eyes did implore,
One more thing Kir did utter, his feathers all a greedy flutter, his voice a roar:
Quoth the albatross, "let's steal some more!"



Translator - Kong Chang
English Adaptation - Carol Fox
Copy Editor - Chrissy Schilling
Retouch and Lettering - Vicente Rivera, Jr.
Cover Layout - Gary Shun
Graphic Designer - Mona Lisa De Asis & James Lee

Editor - Paul Morrissey
Digital Imaging Manager - Chris Buford
Pre-Press Manager - Antonio DePietro
Production Managers - Jennifer Miller and Mutsumi Miyazaki
Art Director - Matt Alford
Managing Editor - Jill Freshney
VP of Production - Ron Klamert
President & C.O.O. - John Parker
Publisher & C.E.O. - Stuart Levy

E-mail: info@TOKYOPOP.com
Come visit us online at www.TOKYOPOP.com

A  Manga

TOKYOPOP Inc.
5900 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA 90036

Jing: King of Bandits Vol. 5
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in 2001 as *Odorobo Jing* - New Edition by Kodansha, Ltd., Tokyo.
English publication rights arranged through Kodansha, Ltd.

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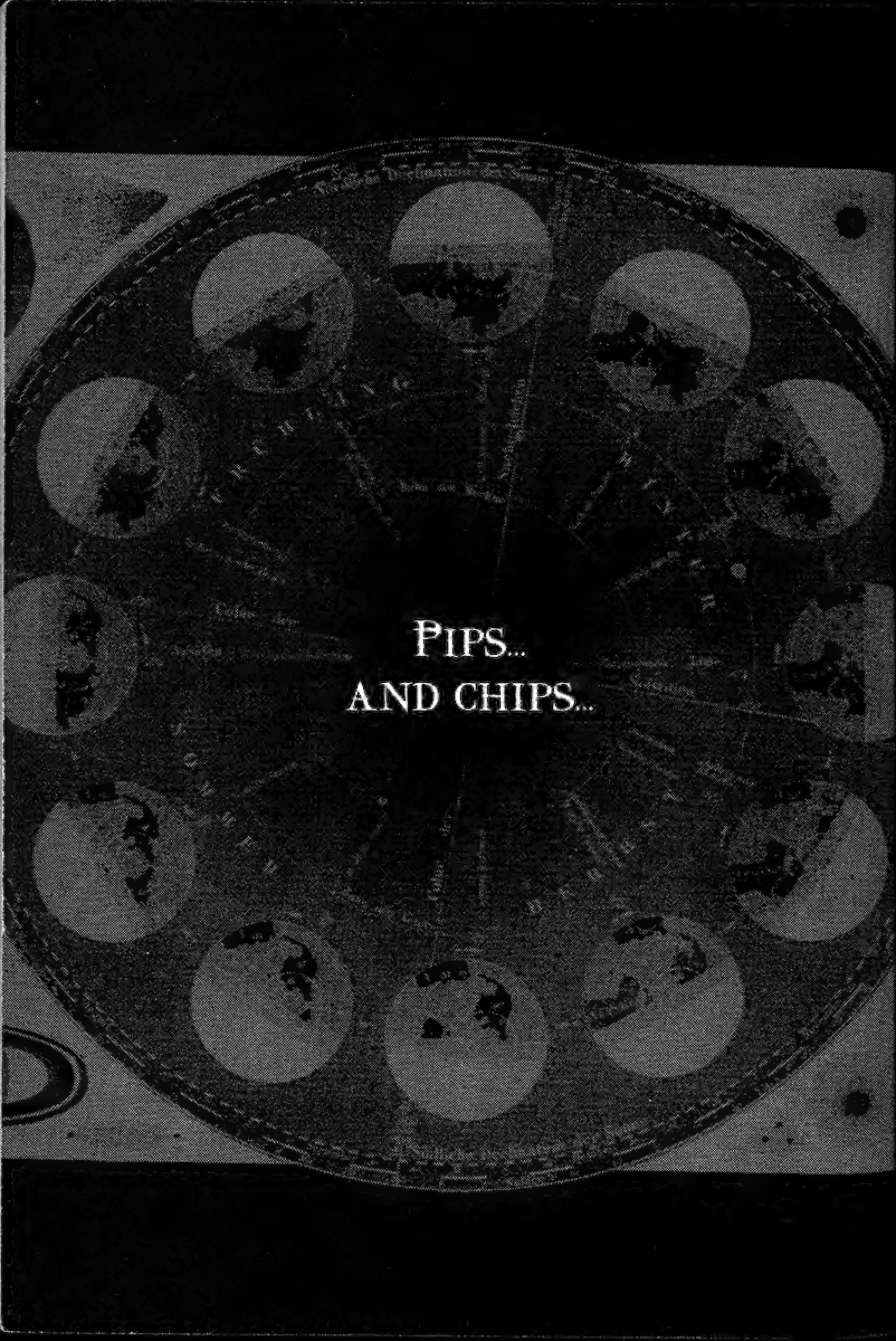
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ISBN: 1-59182-467-2

First TOKYOPOP printing: May 2004

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in the USA



PIPS...
AND CHIPS...

JING: KING OF BANDITS

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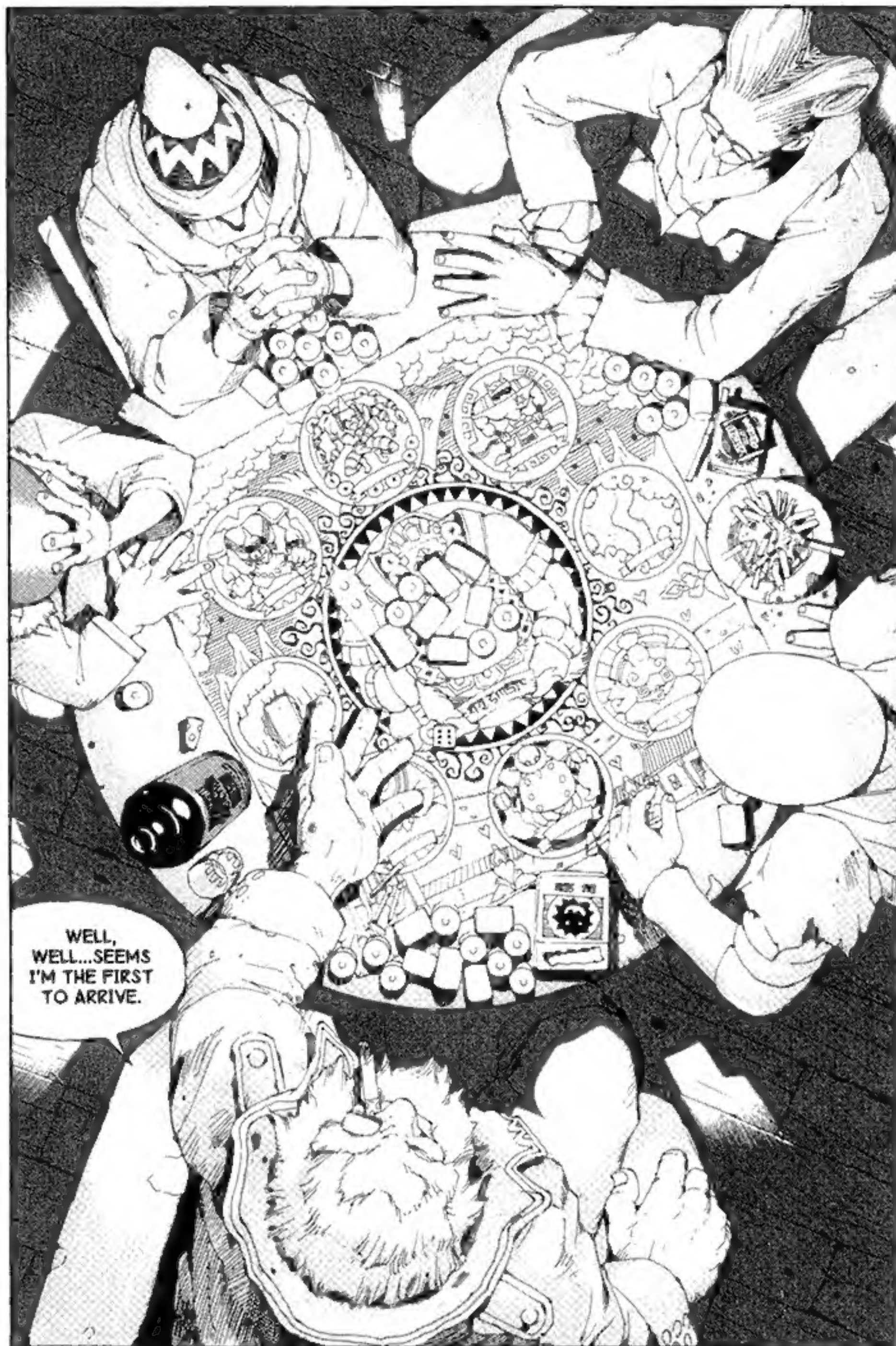
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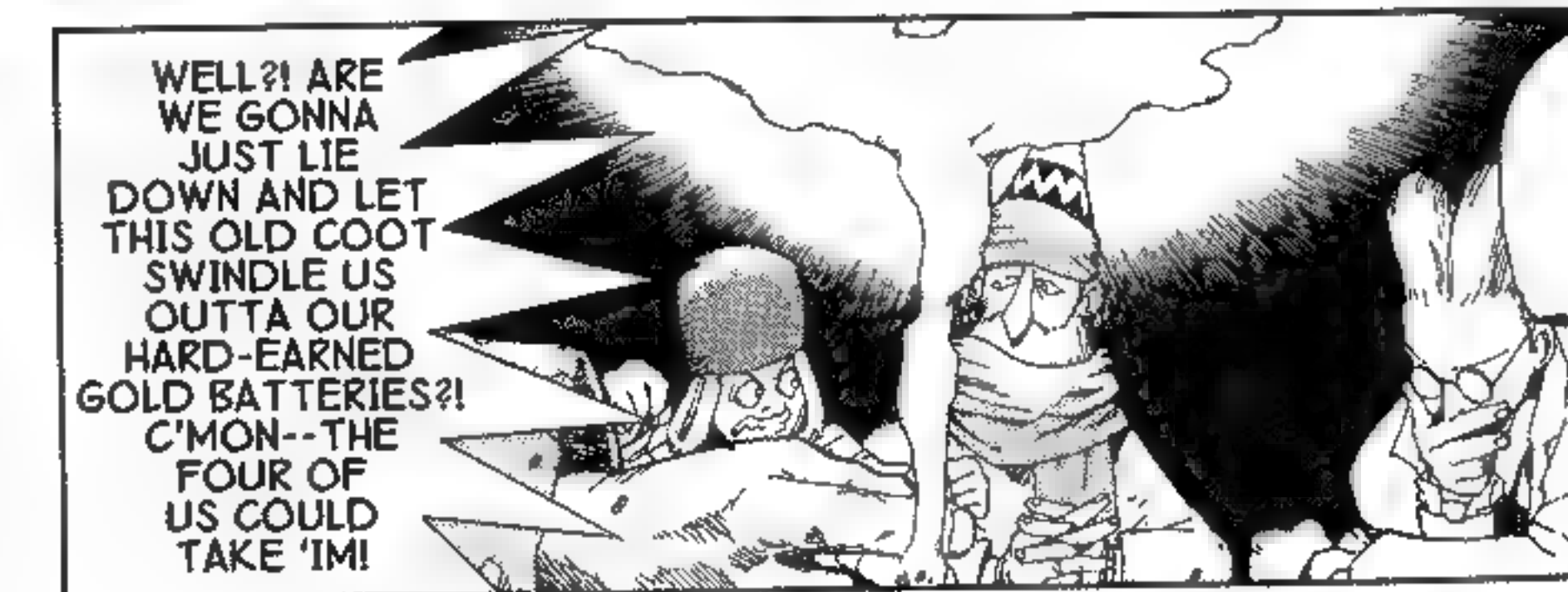
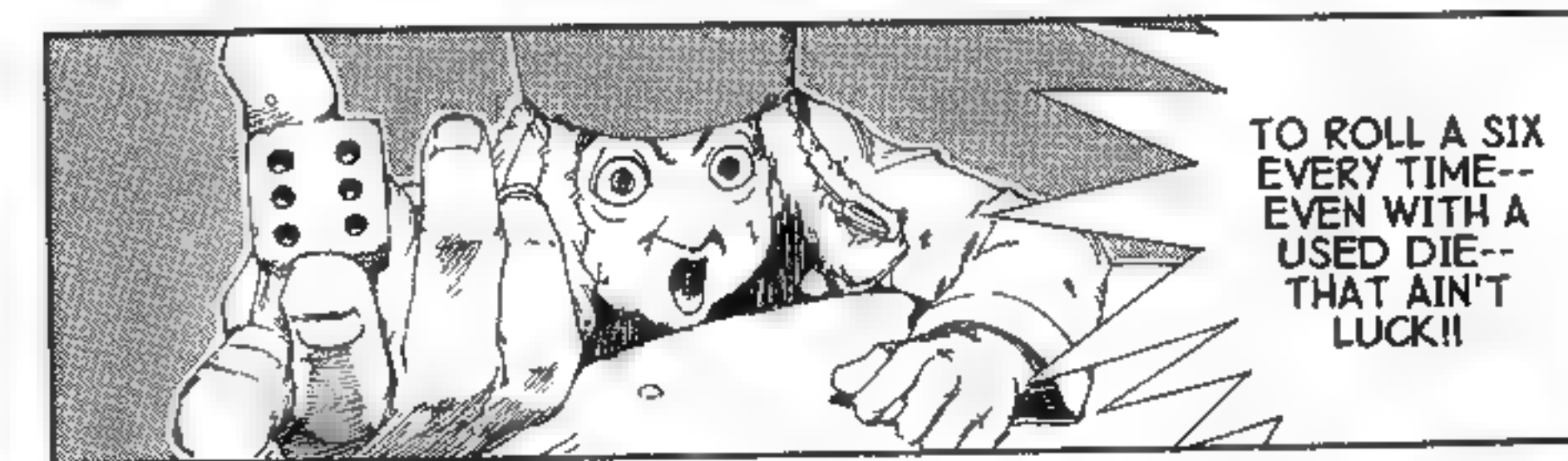
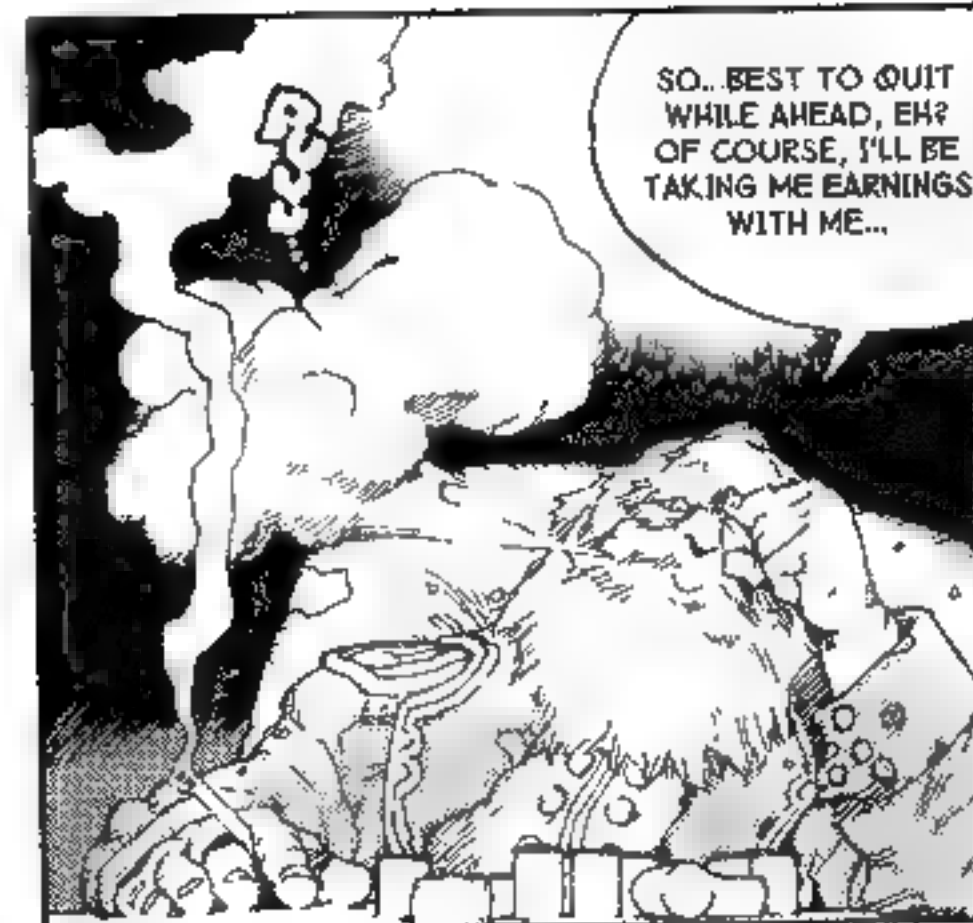
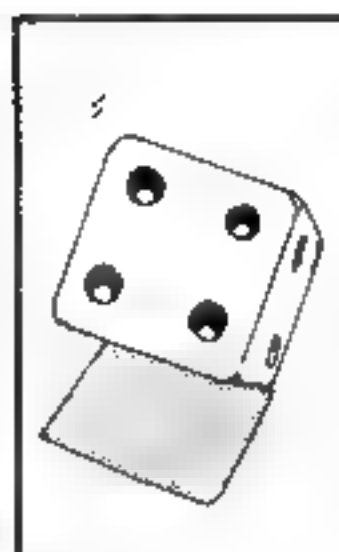
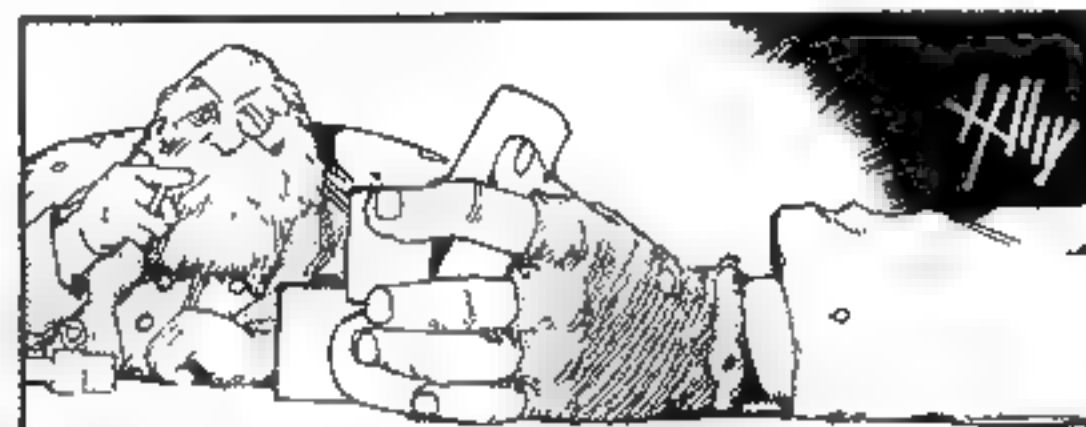
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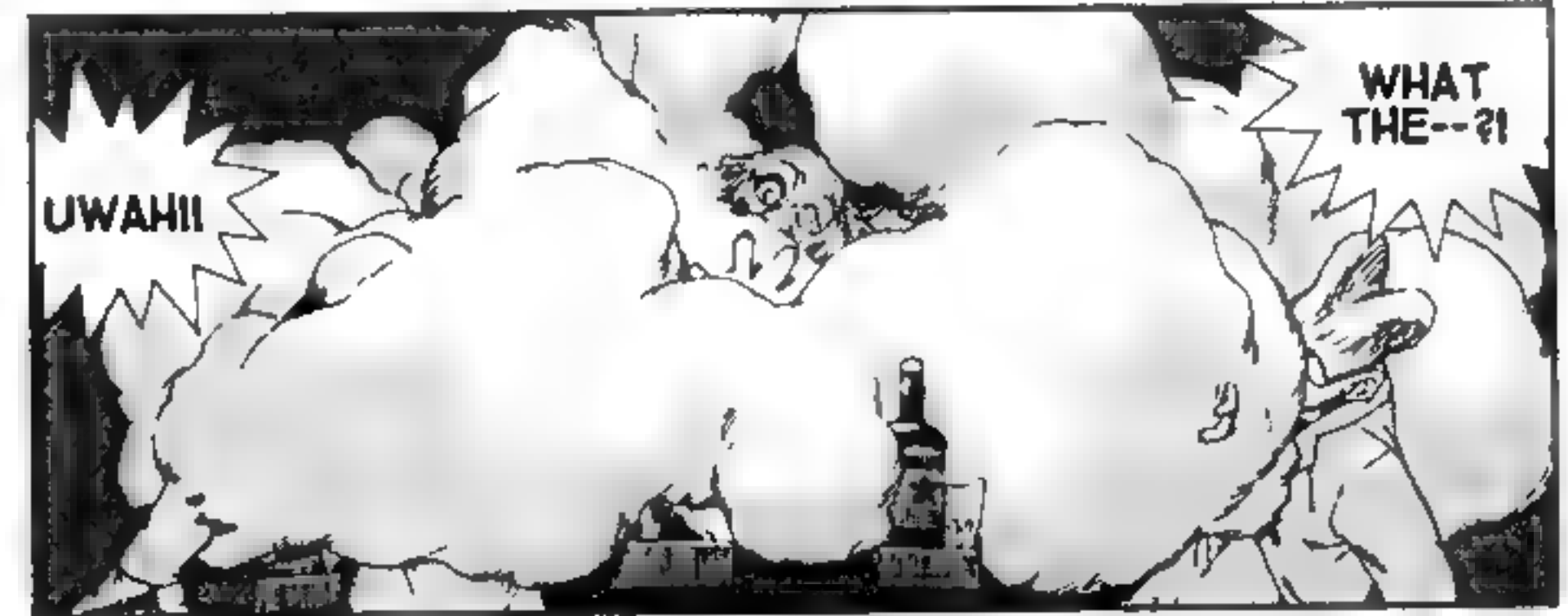
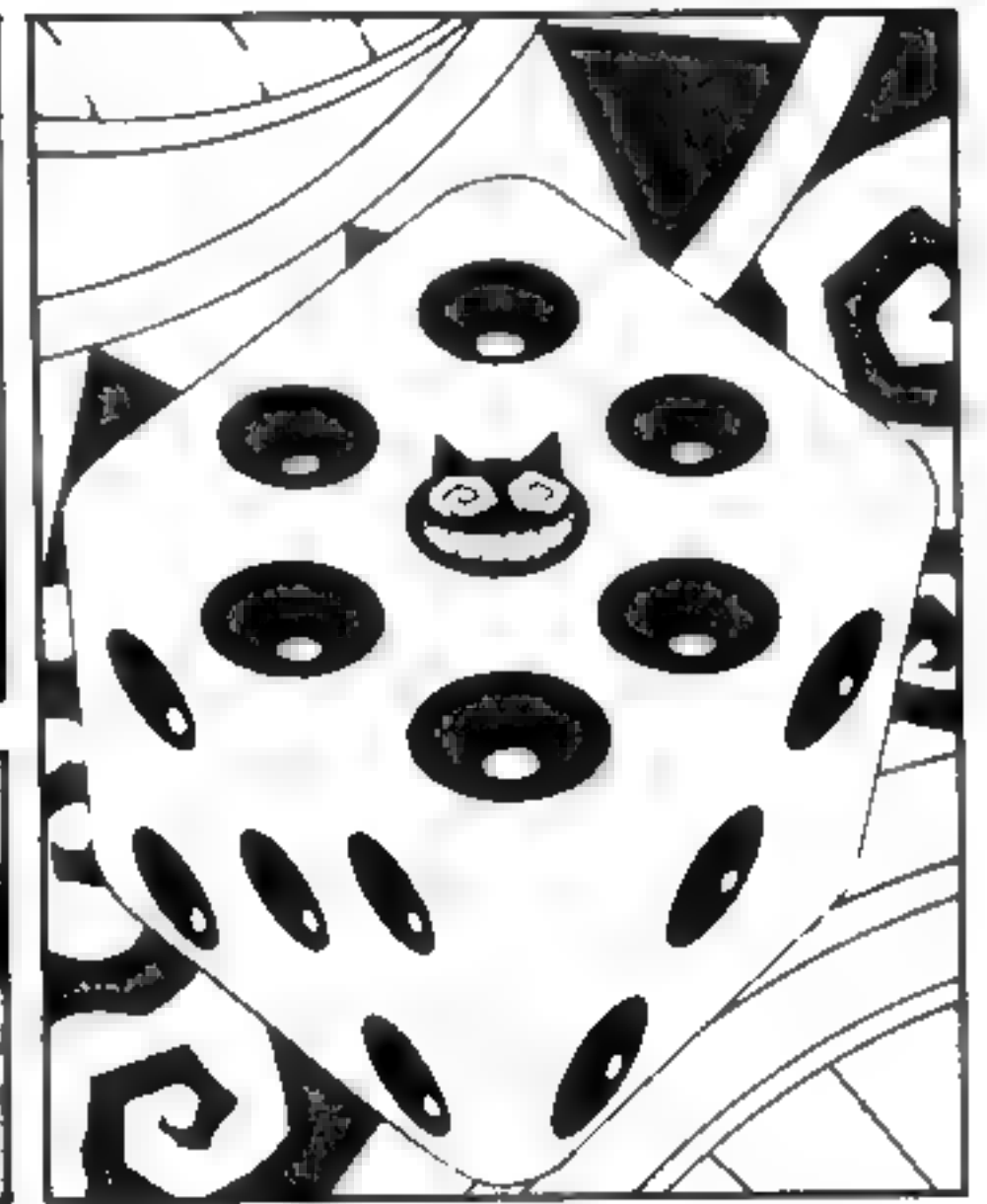
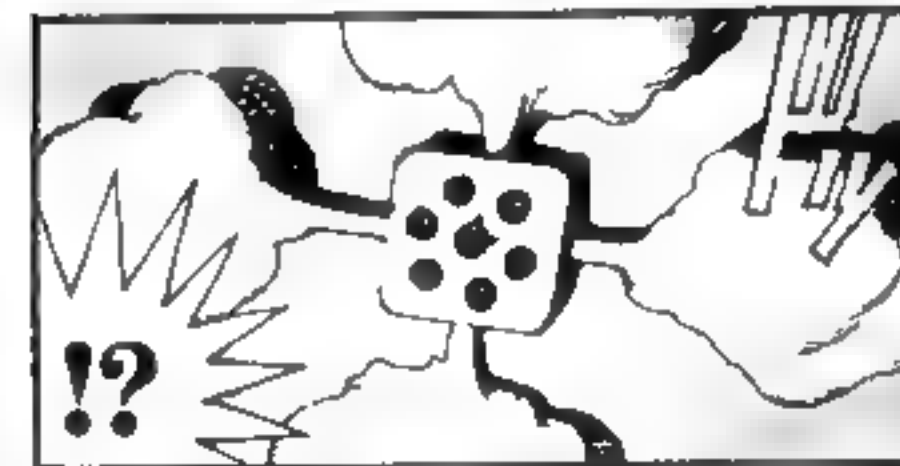
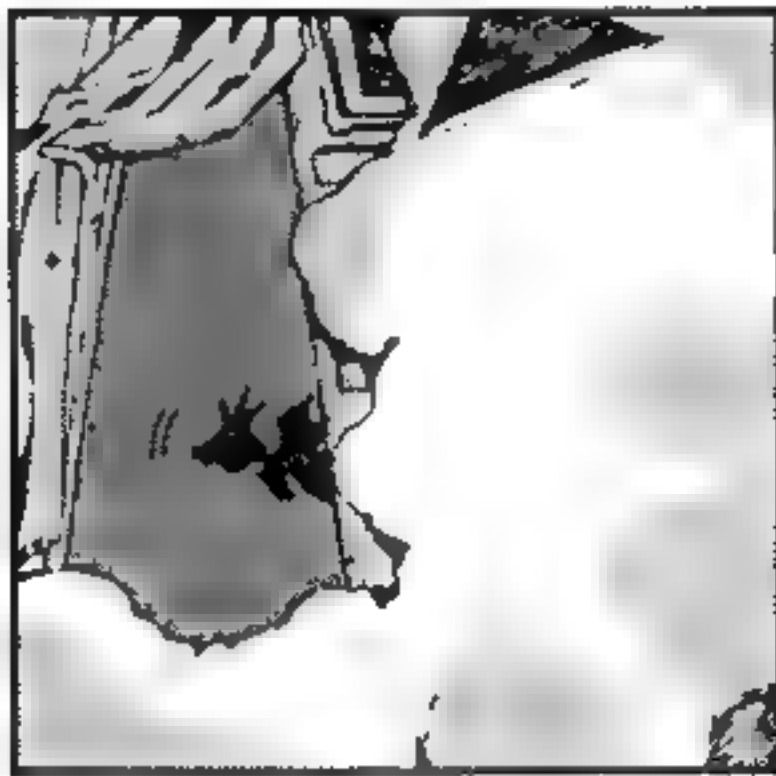
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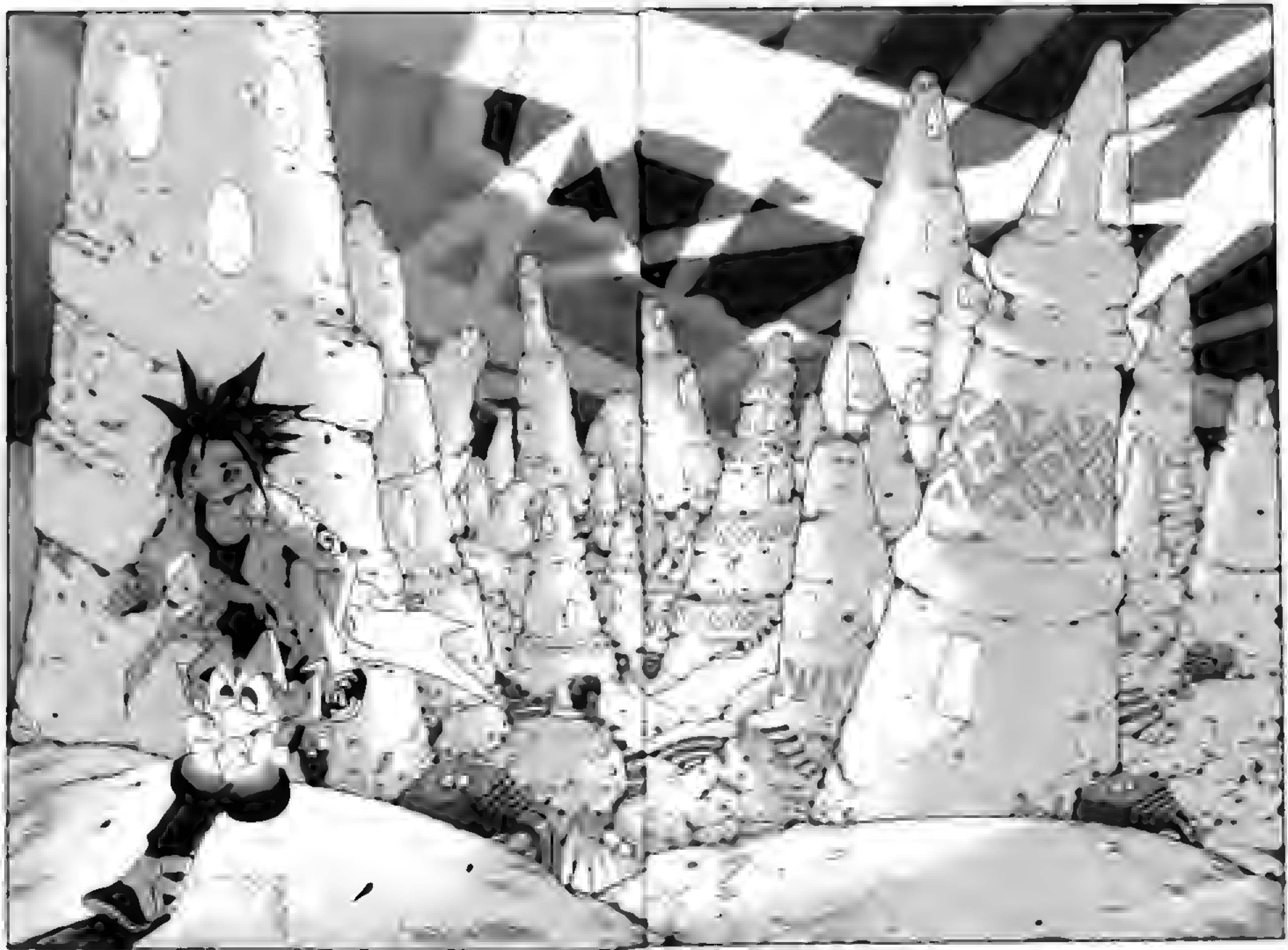
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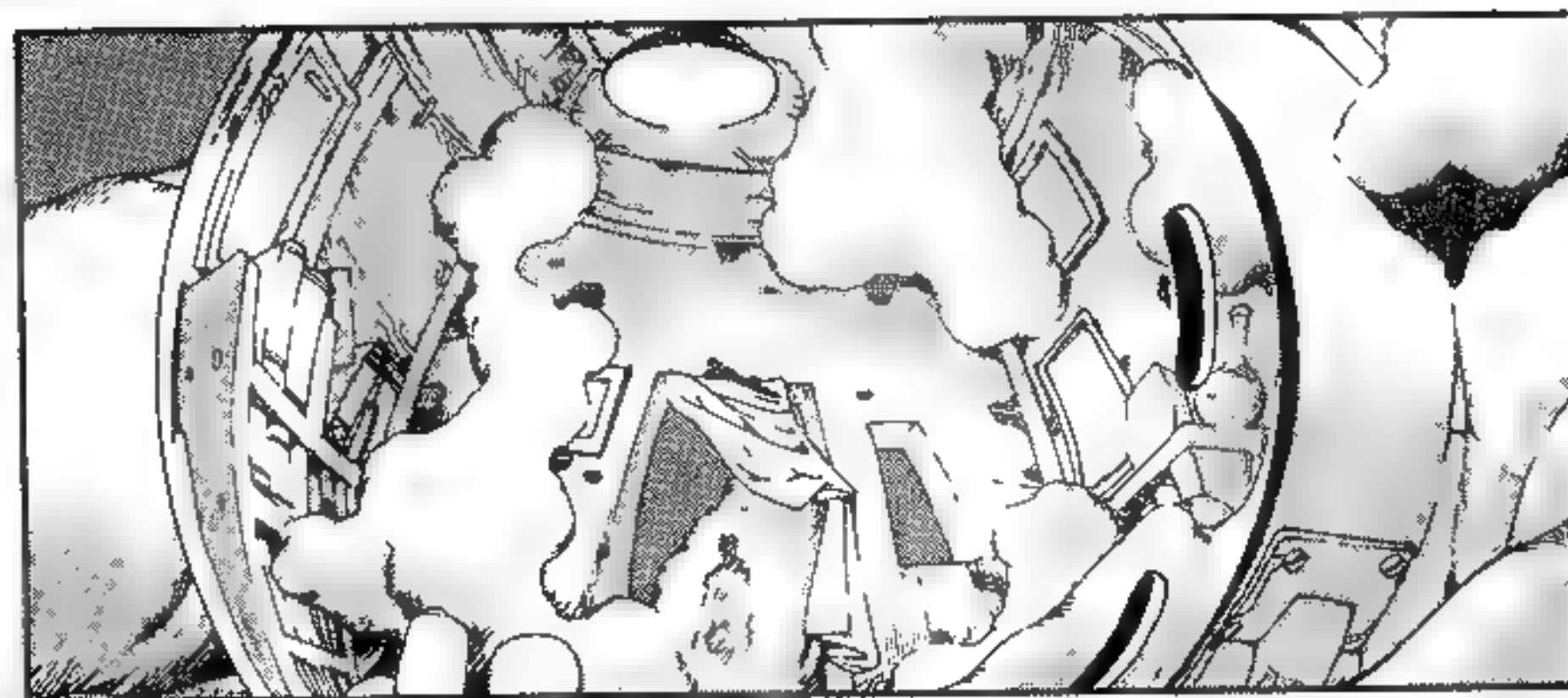
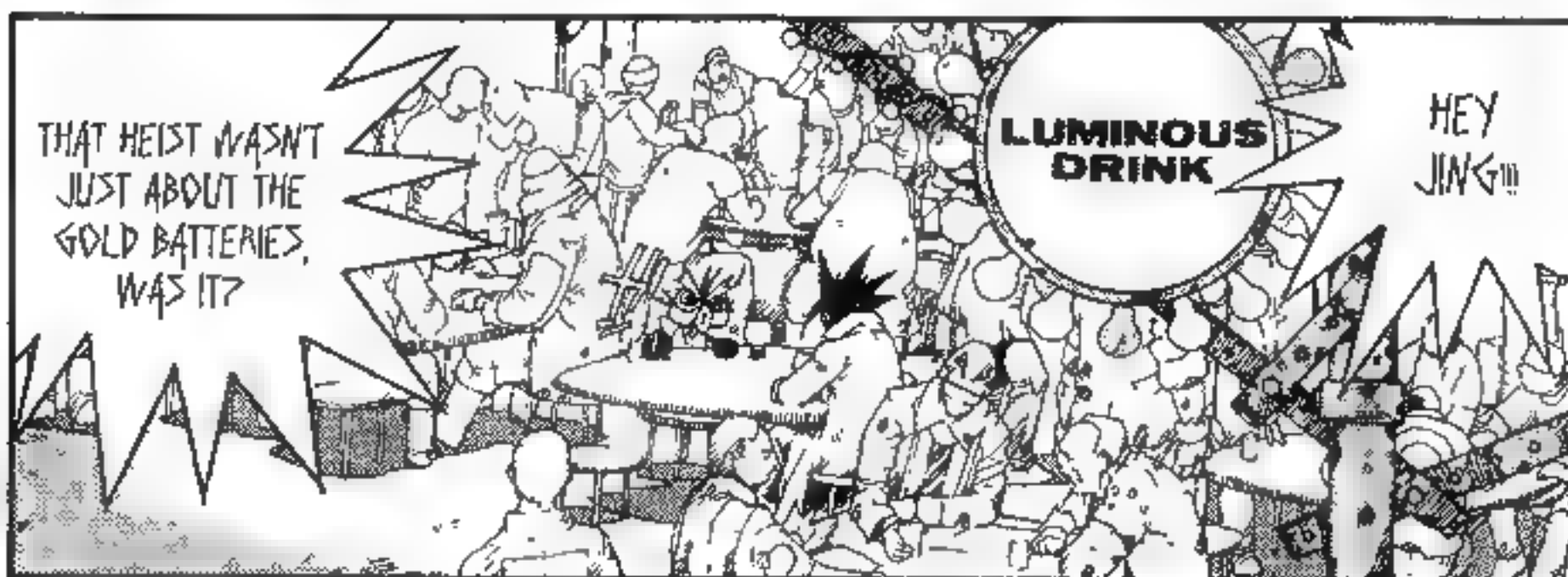
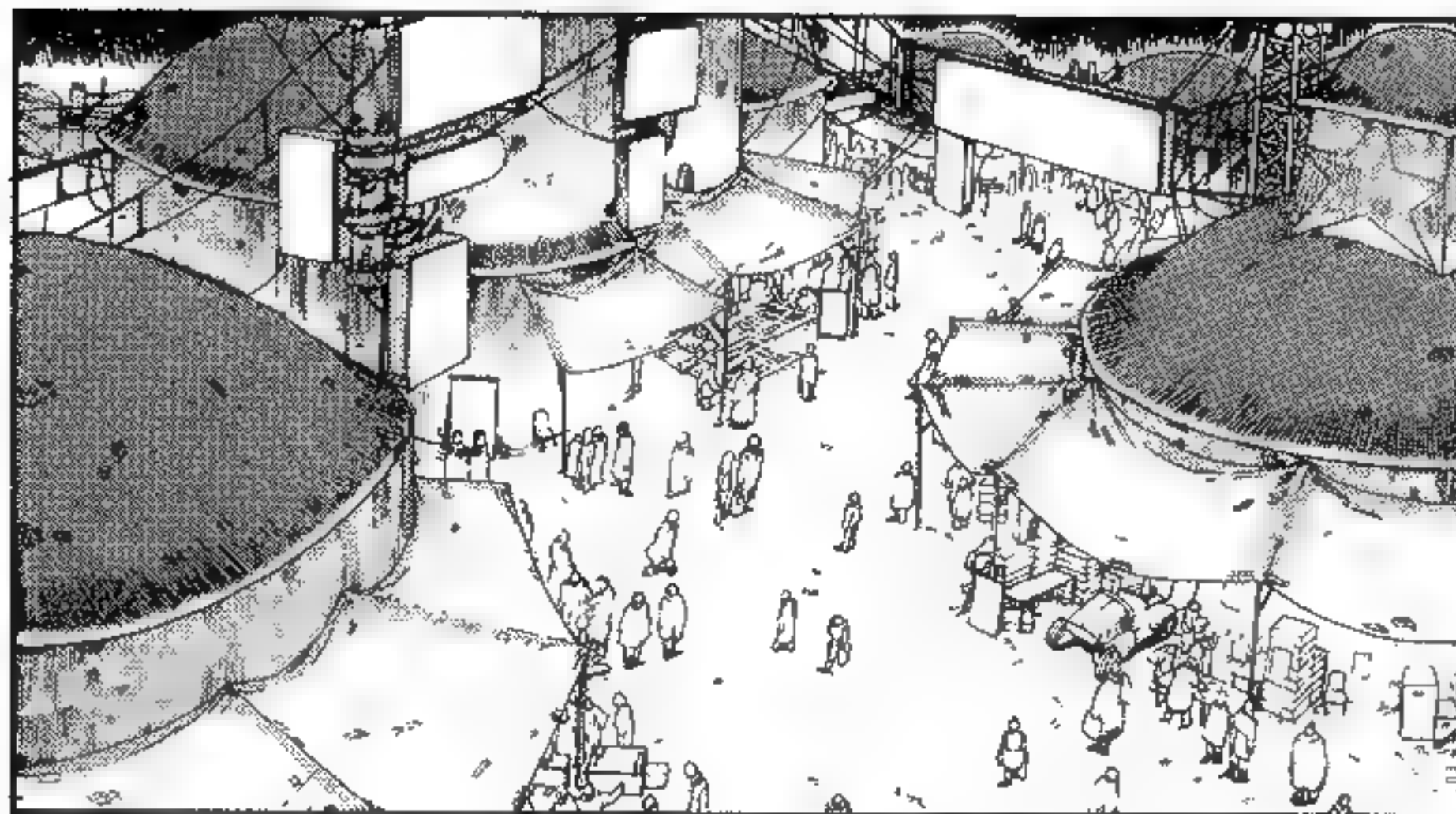


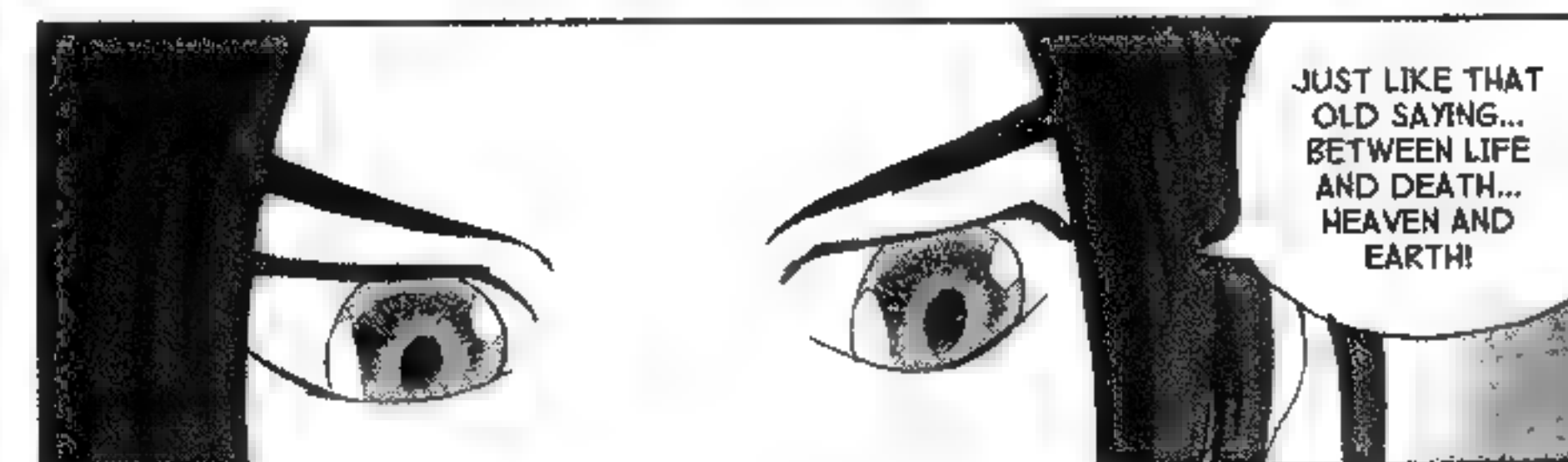
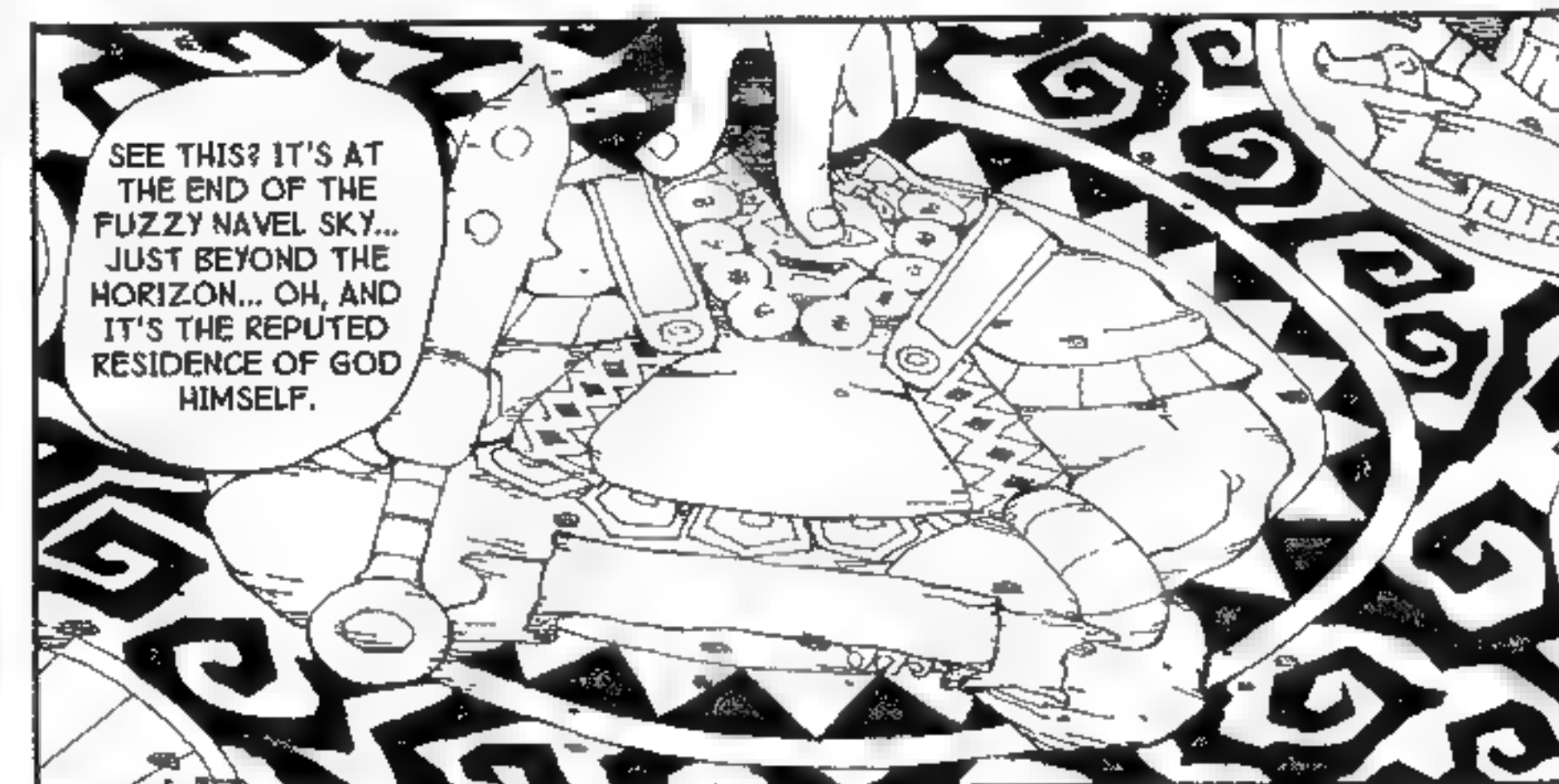
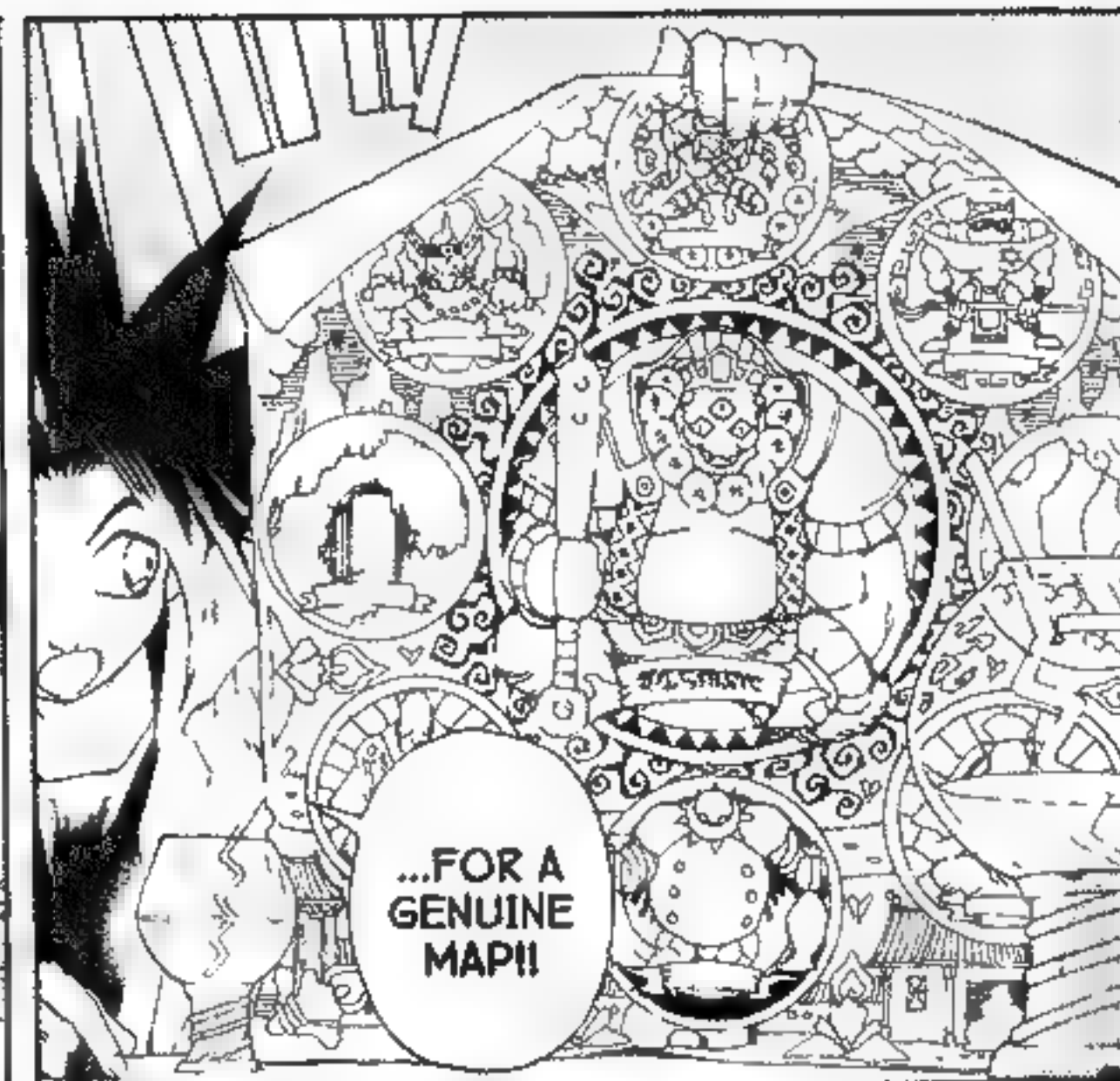
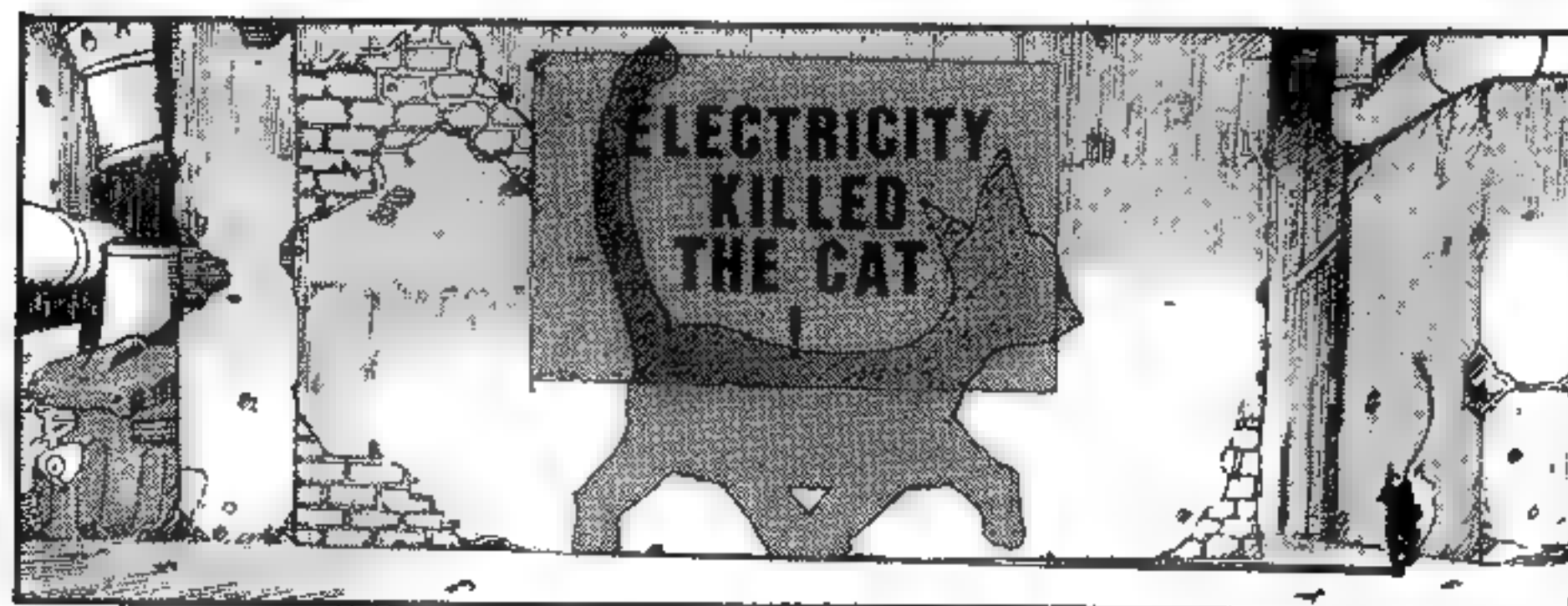
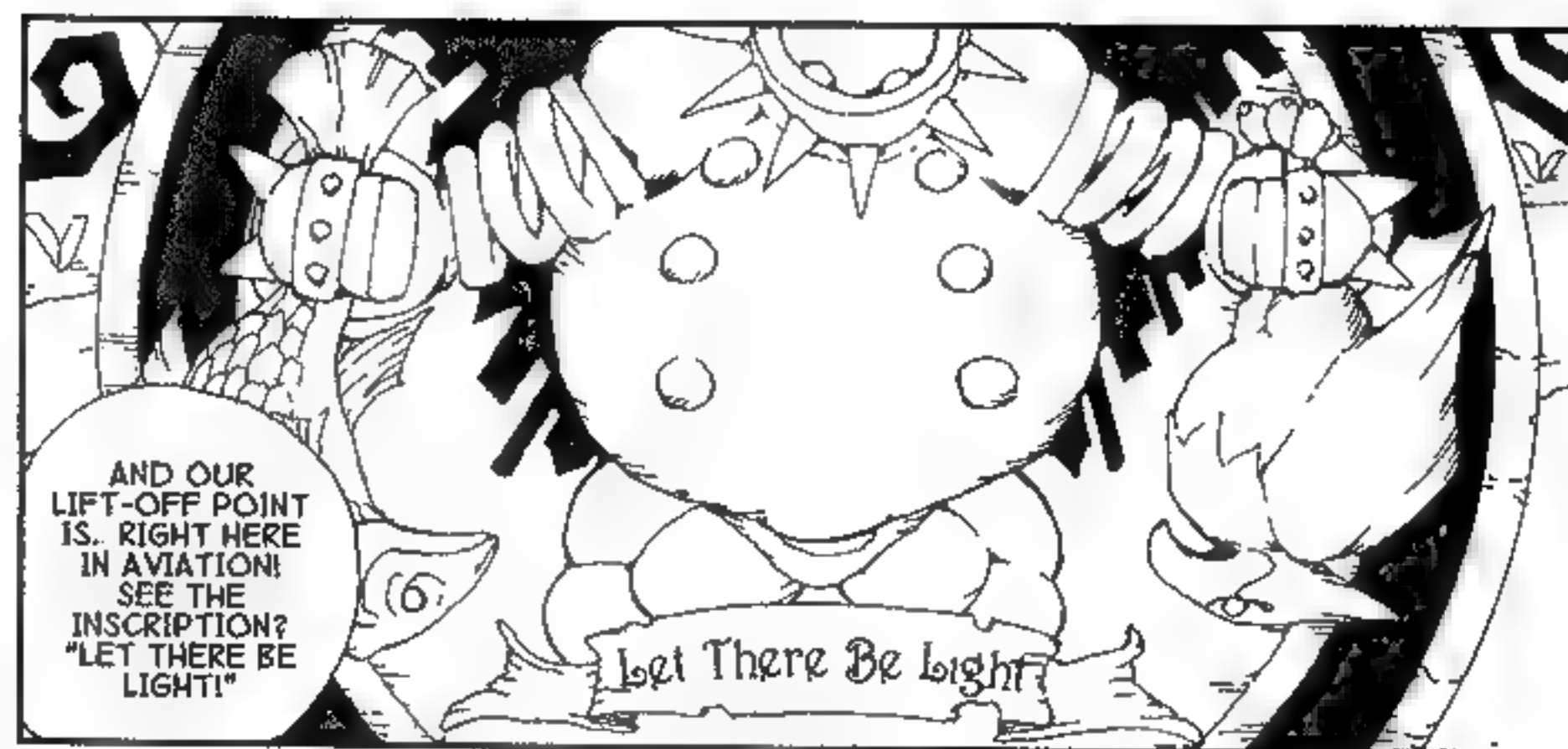


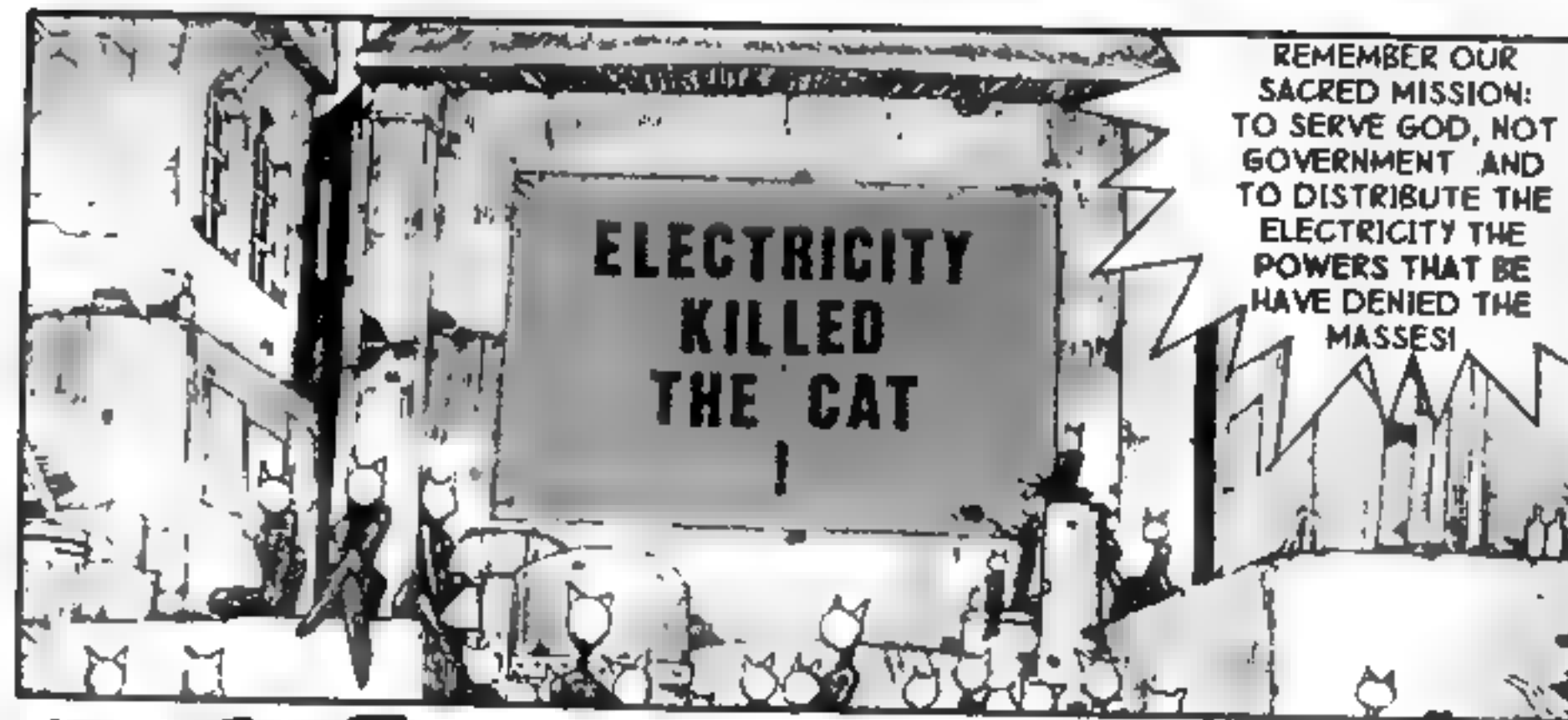












REMEMBER OUR SACRED MISSION: TO SERVE GOD, NOT GOVERNMENT, AND TO DISTRIBUTE THE ELECTRICITY THE POWERS THAT BE HAVE DENIED THE MASSES!



NEVER SAY, "THOU SHALT NOT STEAL." ON THE CONTRARY...GOD COMMANDS IT!



KILLED THE CAT

AND SINCE WE HAVE MADE OUR GOD ALL TOO AWARE OF THIS SENTIMENT, SHOULD IT BE ANY SURPRISE THAT WE NOW FIND THE PATH TO HIS HEAD TEMPLE, FUZZY NAVEL, SUDDENLY OPEN TO US!



OUR LONGEST-CHERISHED DREAM--TO STEAL ELECTRICITY FROM FUZZY NAVEL--IS NOW WITHIN OUR REACH...



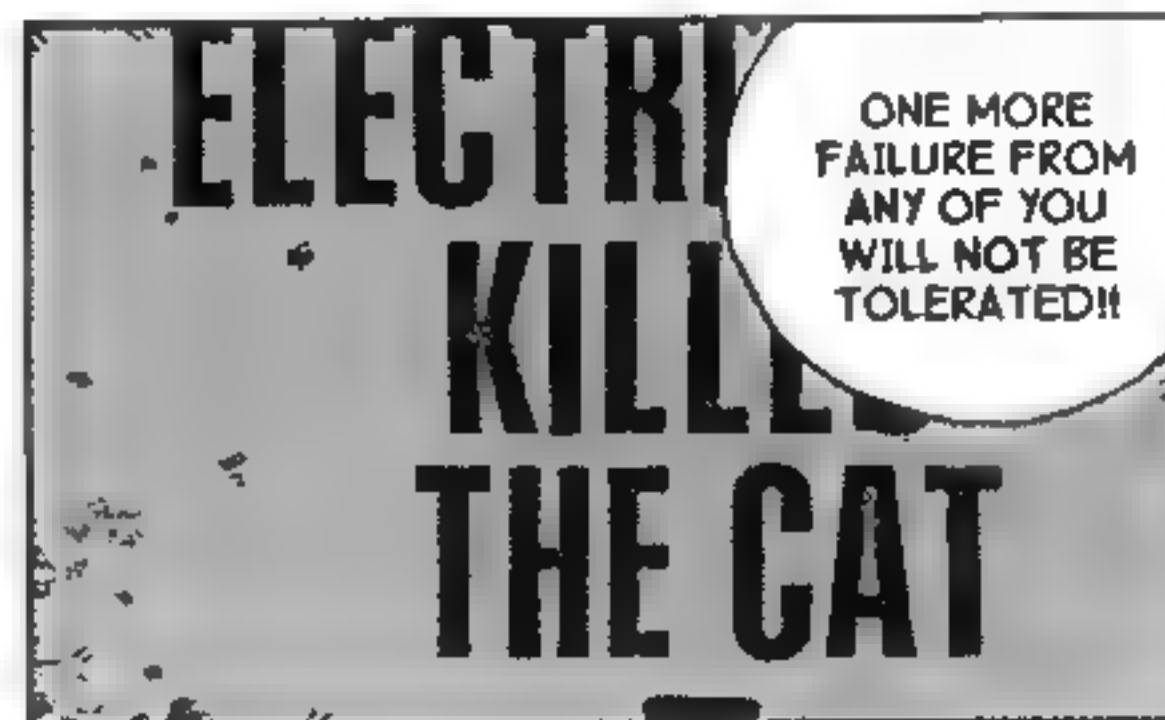
...AND WE CANNOT AFFORD TO RISK BETRAYING GOD'S CONFIDENCE BY LETTING THIS OPPORTUNITY SLIP THROUGH OUR CLAWS!



YOU HEAR ME? THIS GOES FOR ALL STRAY CATS!!



WITHOUT IT, EVEN OUR BEST EFFORTS WILL GO UP IN SMOKE!!

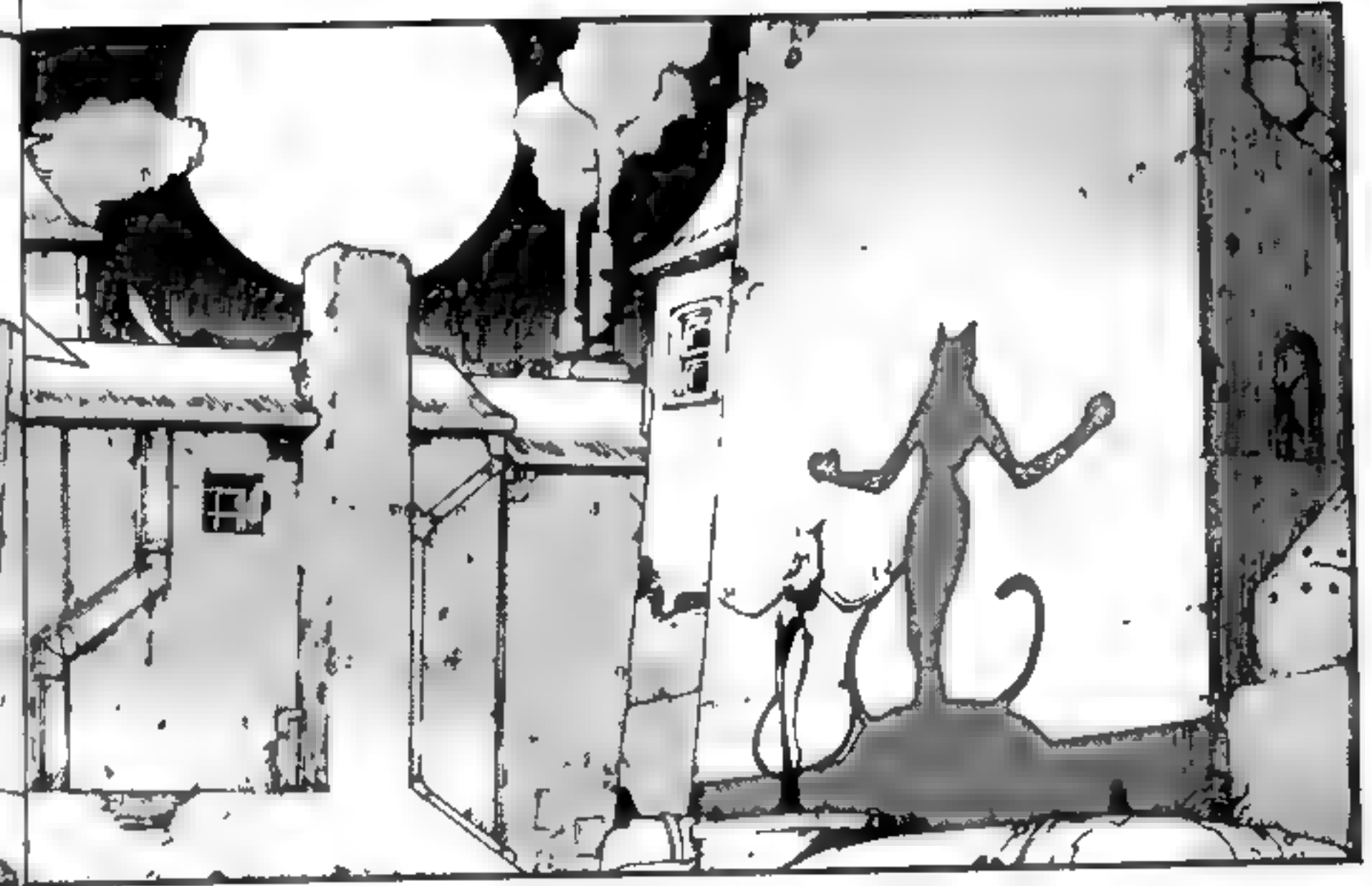
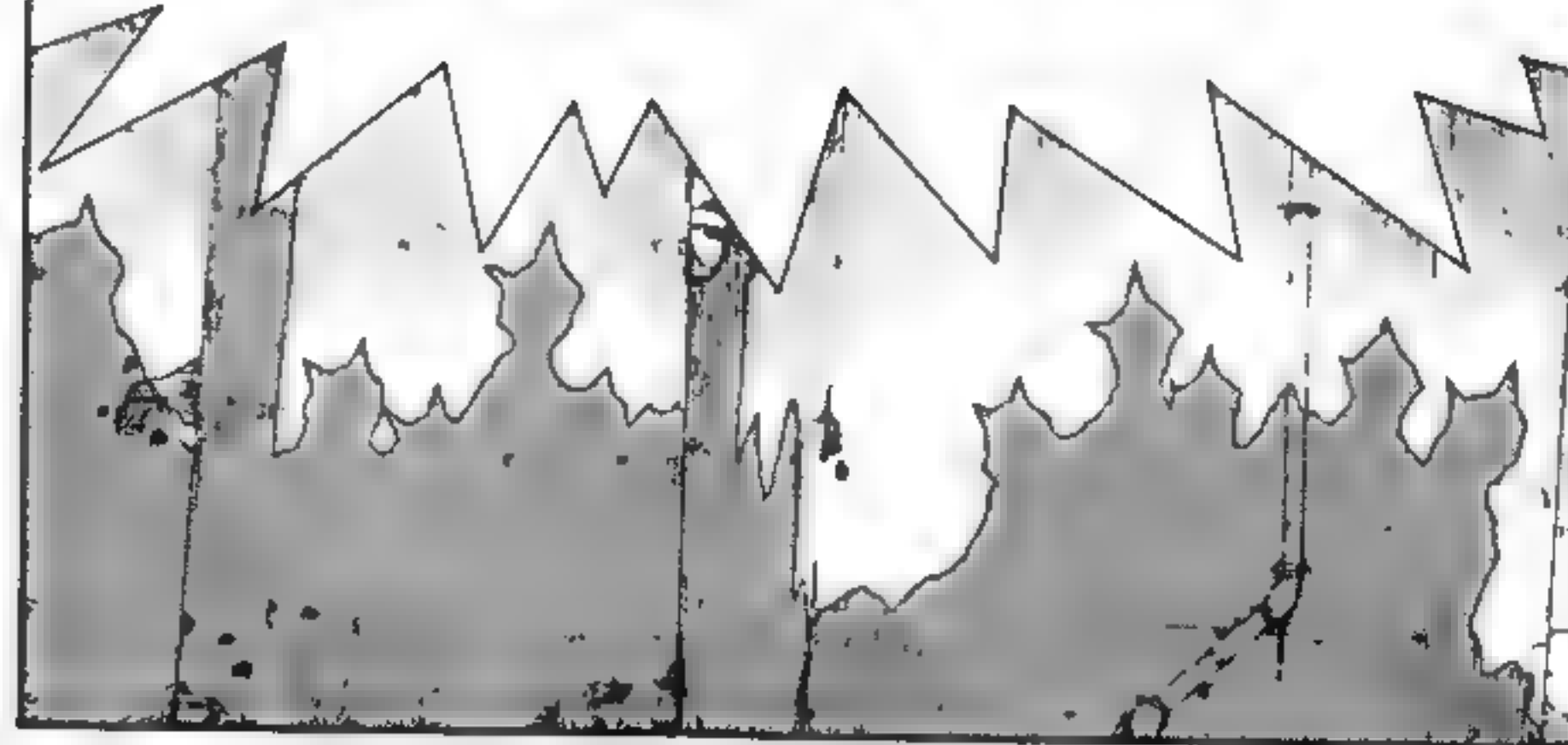


ONE MORE FAILURE FROM ANY OF YOU WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!!



WE'VE GOT TO GET THAT MAP BACK!!

AMEN!!!!!!



OF COURSE...
THE TEMPLE.



A TEMPLE...
ON THE
OUTSKIRTS OF
TOWN!! I SAW
HIM...HOLDING
THE MAP...AS
PLAIN AS DAY!



WHERE?
WHERE IS
IT?!

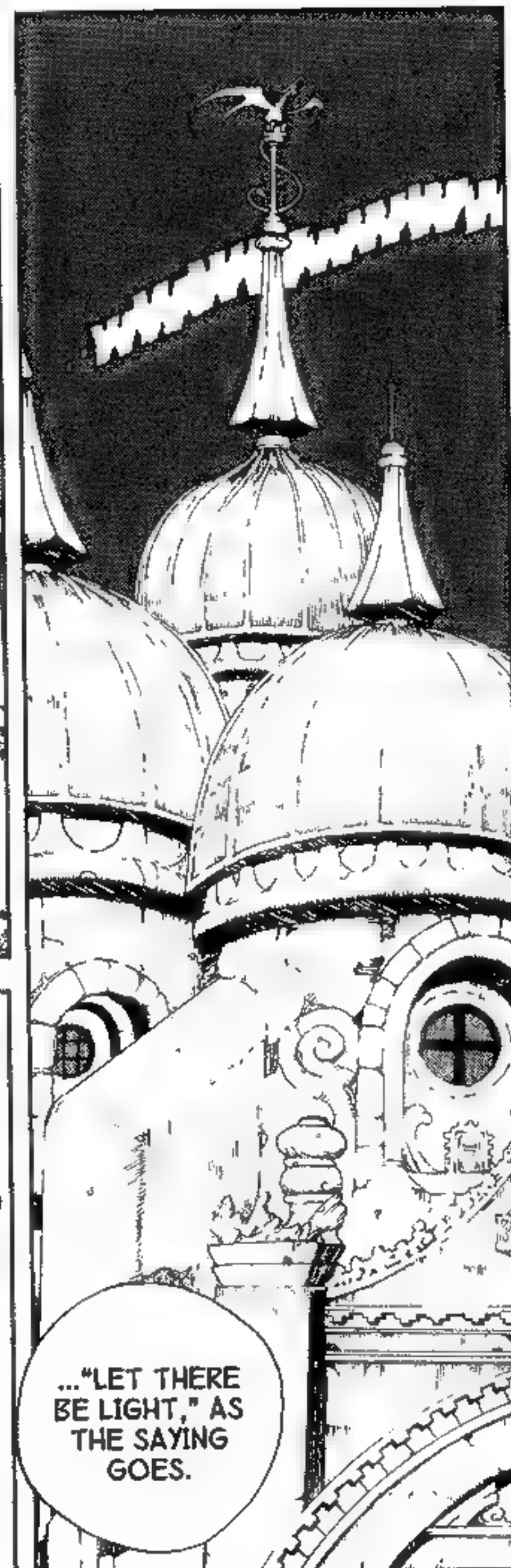
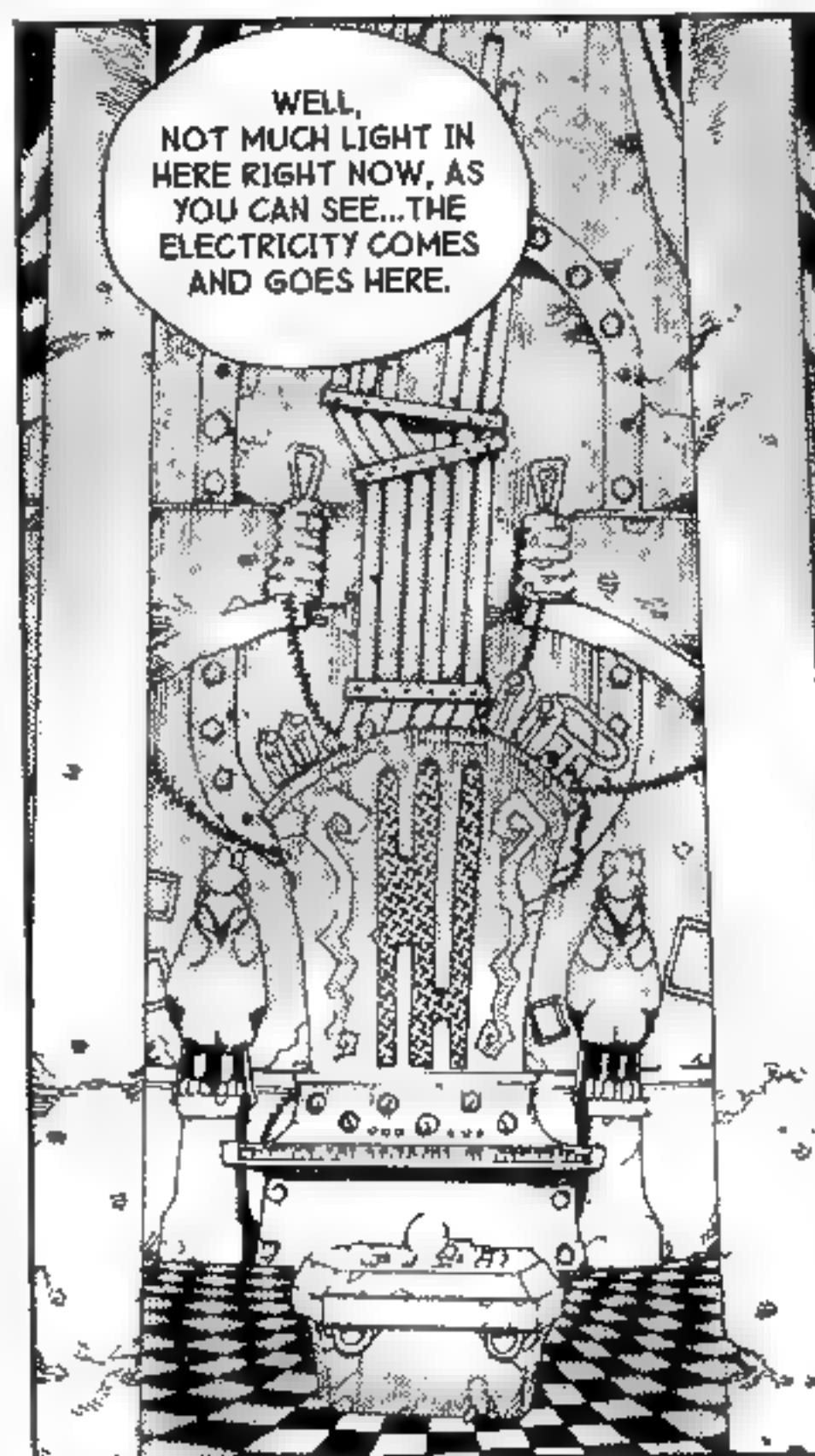
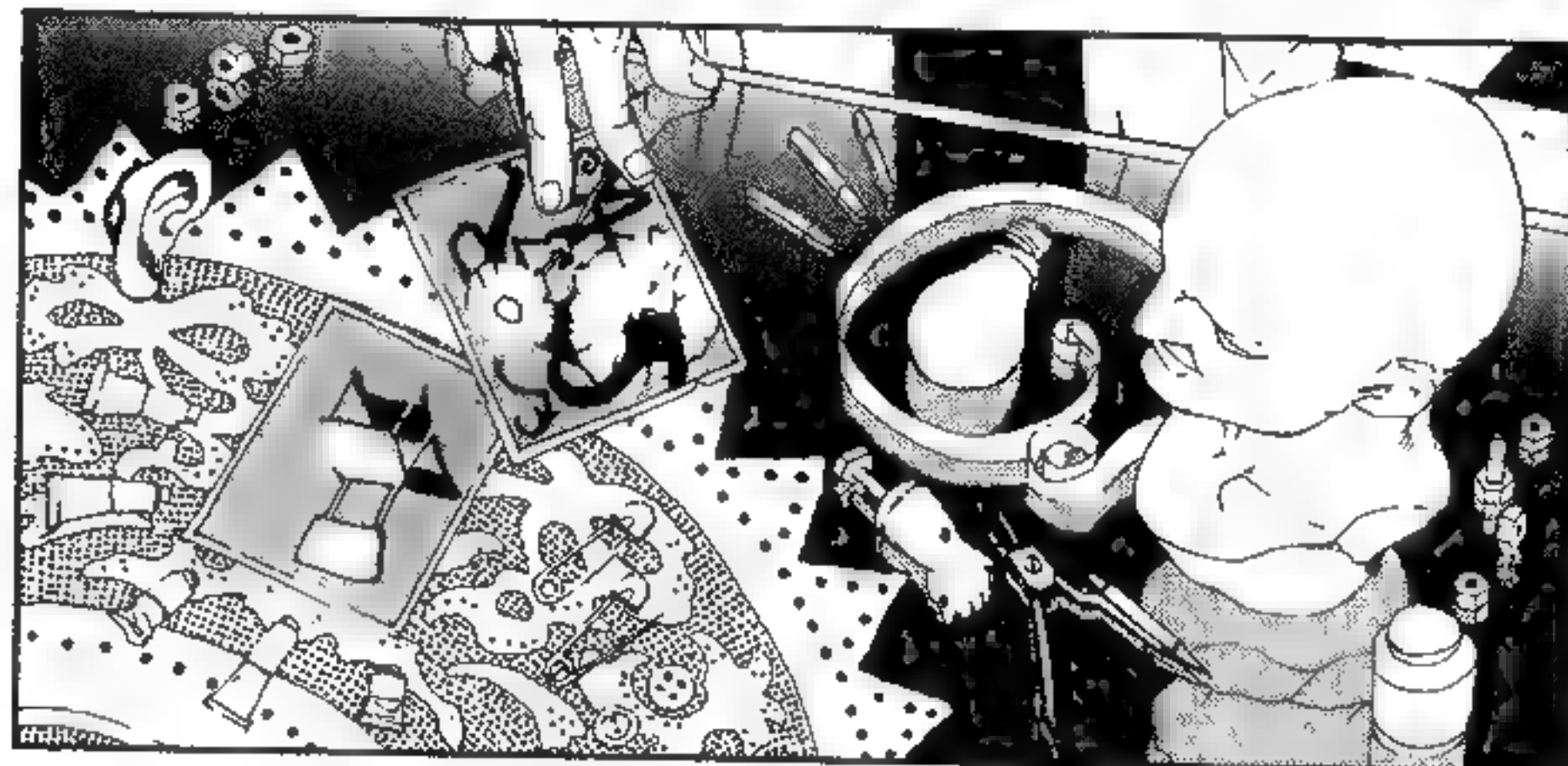


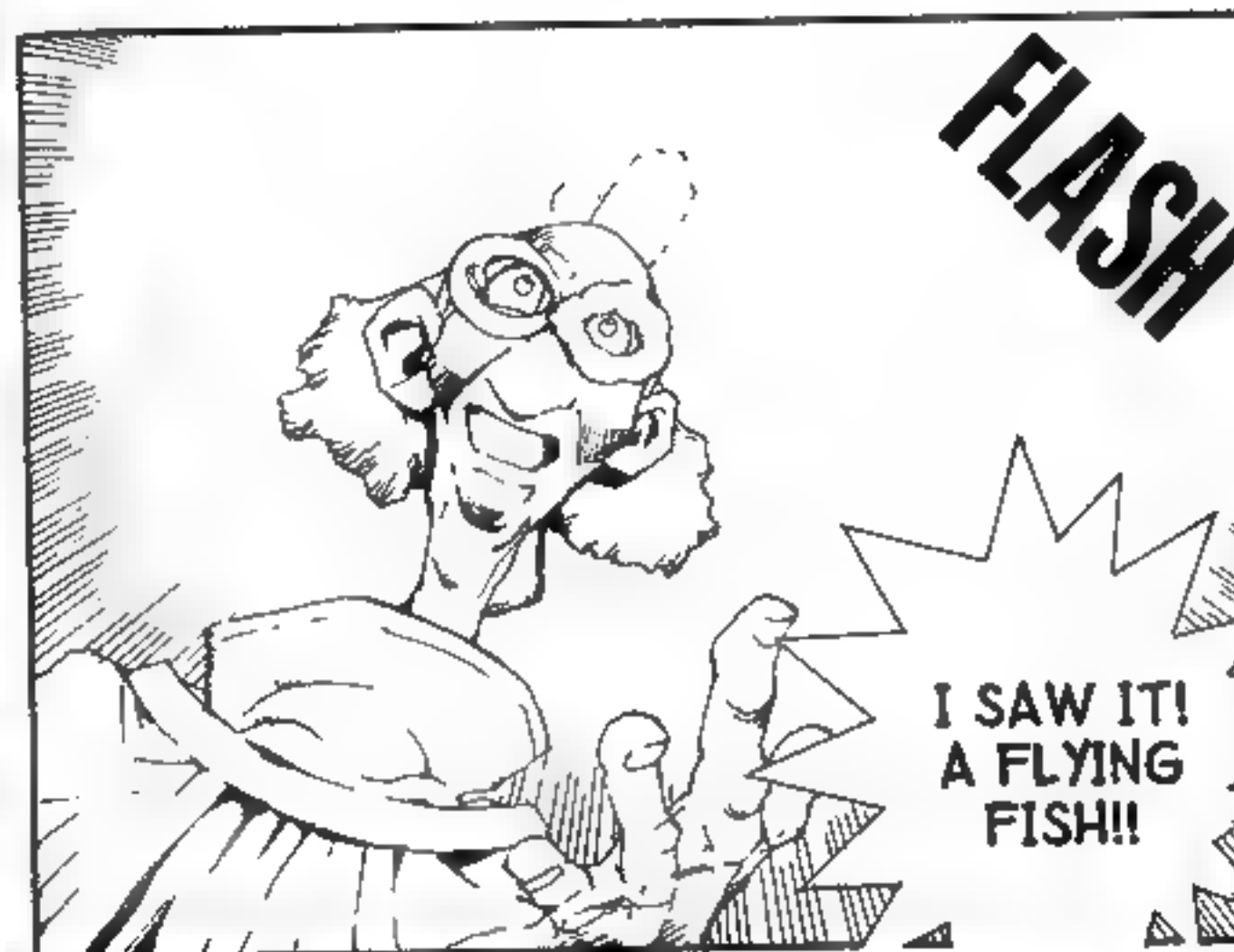
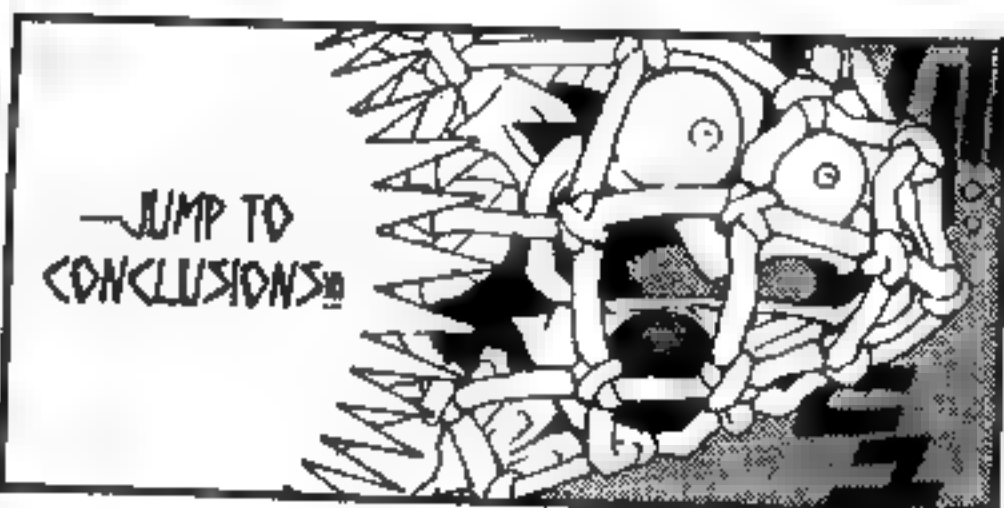
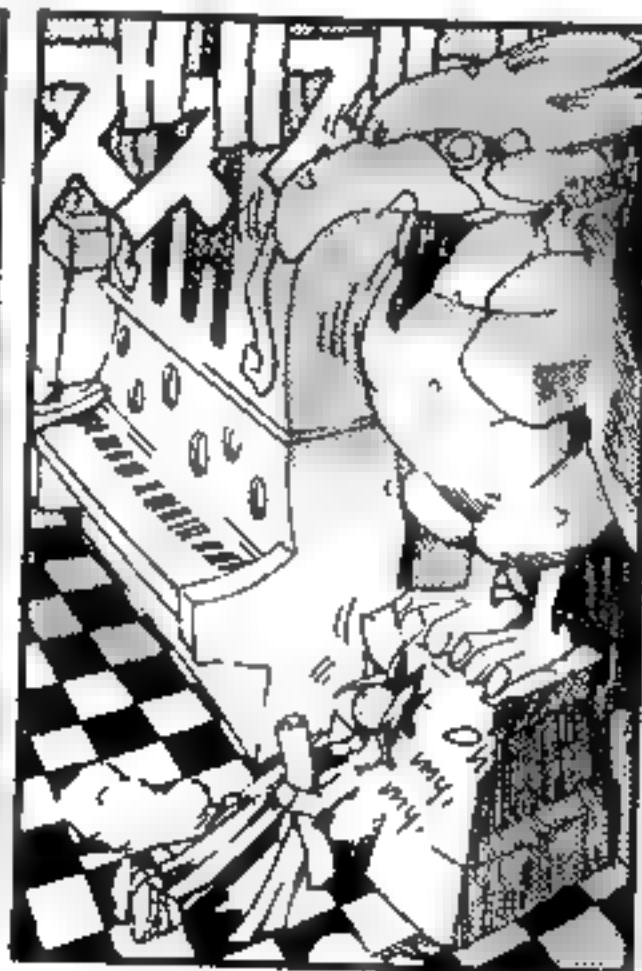
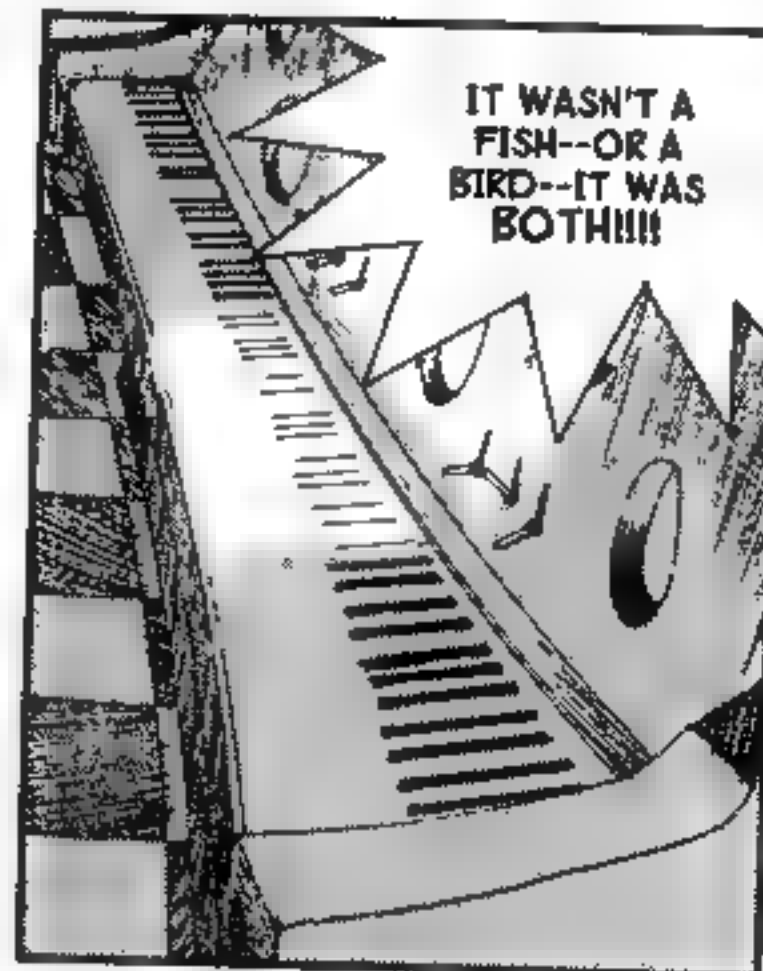
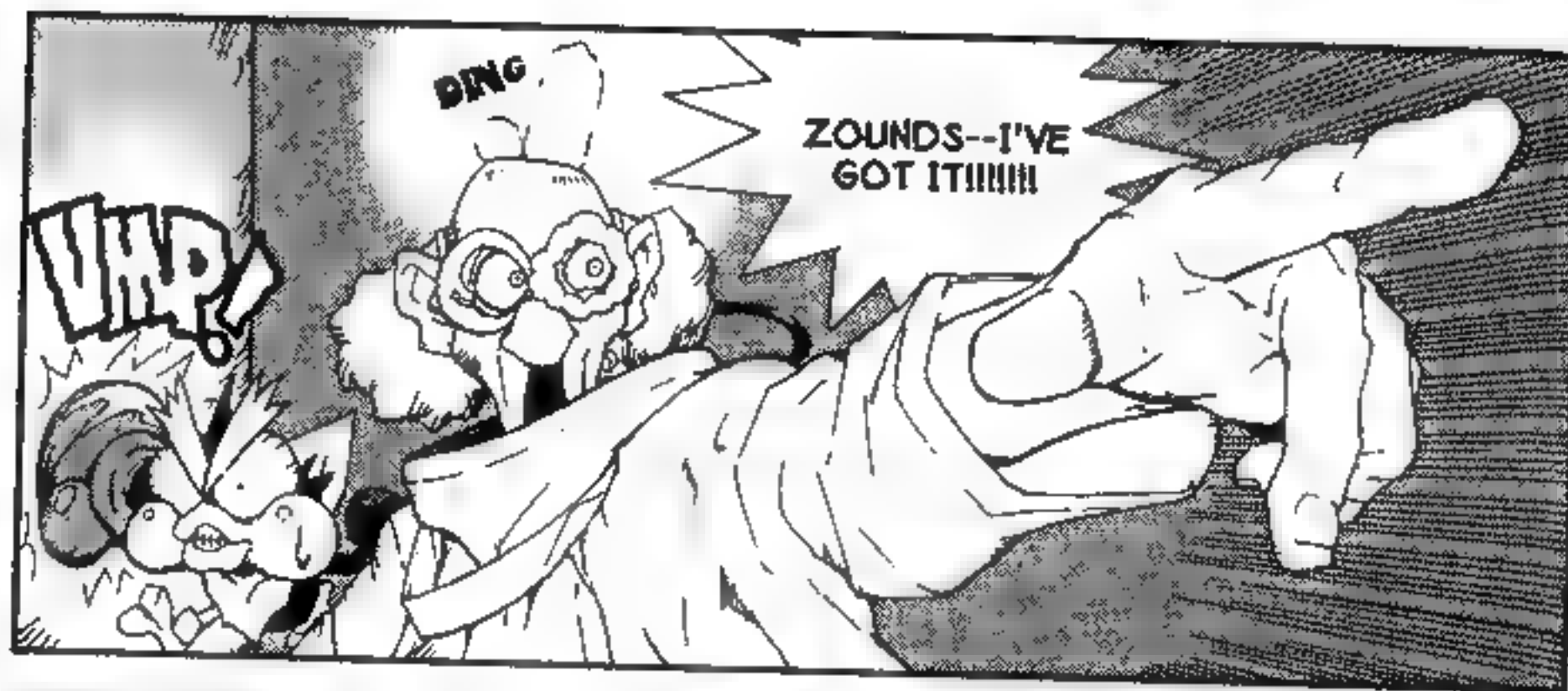
I'VE FOUND HIM!
THE ONE WHO
HOLDS OUR MAP!

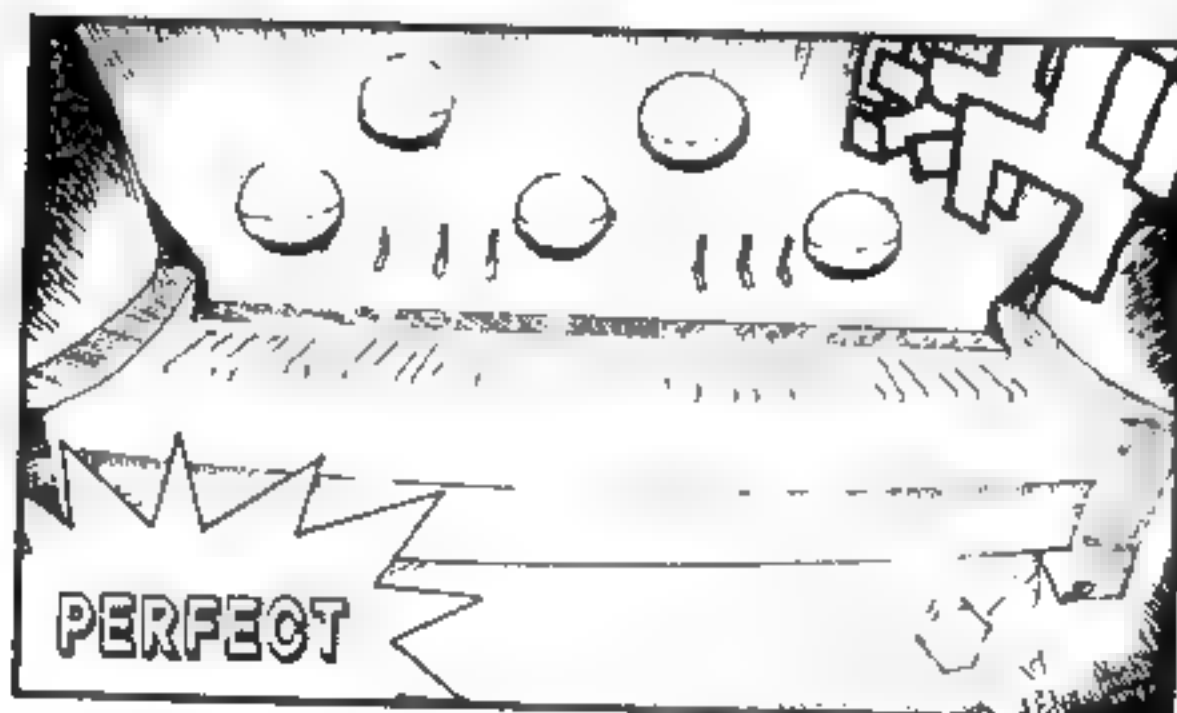
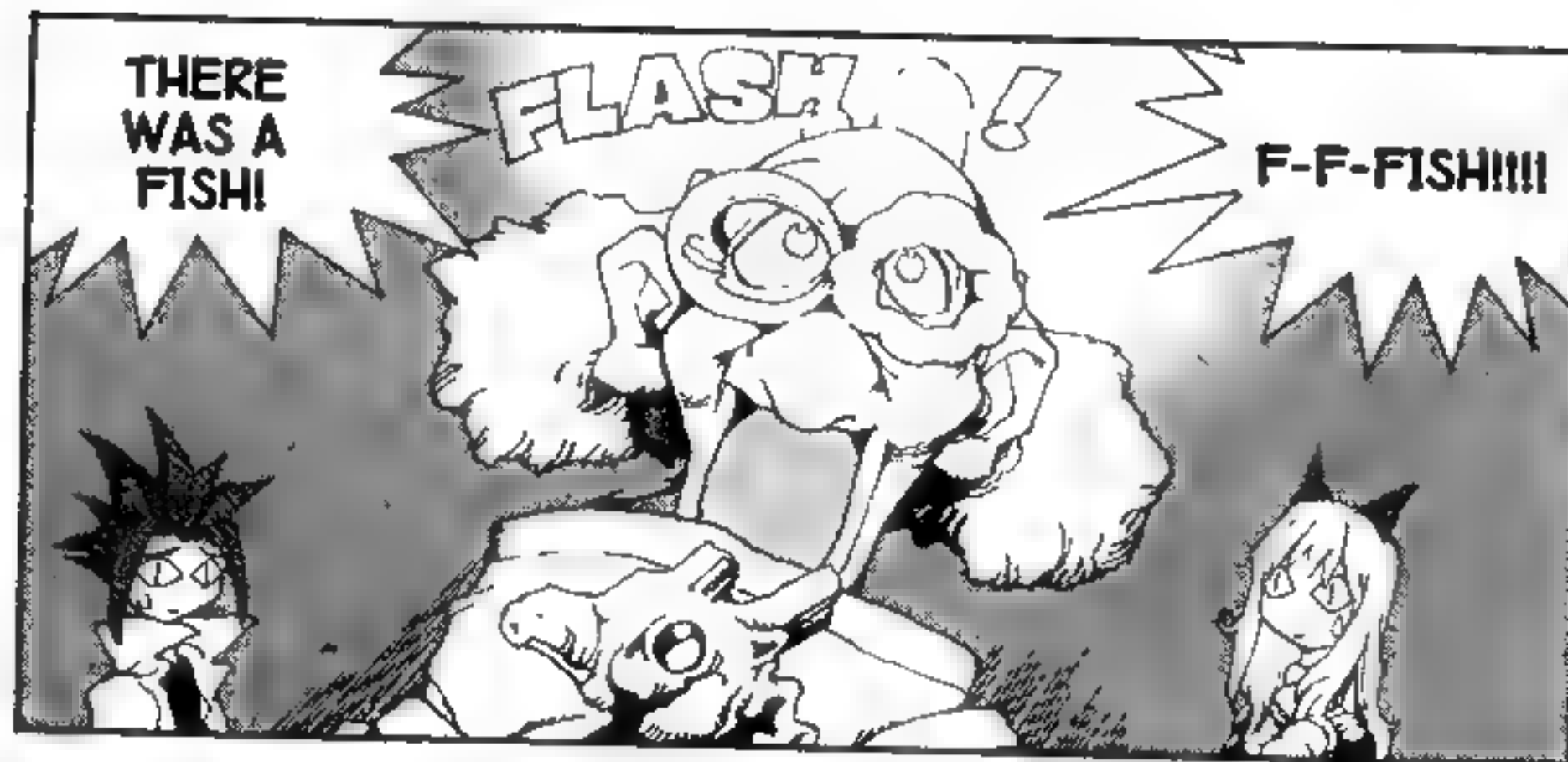


SISTER
KIRSCHER!!

SISTER!!

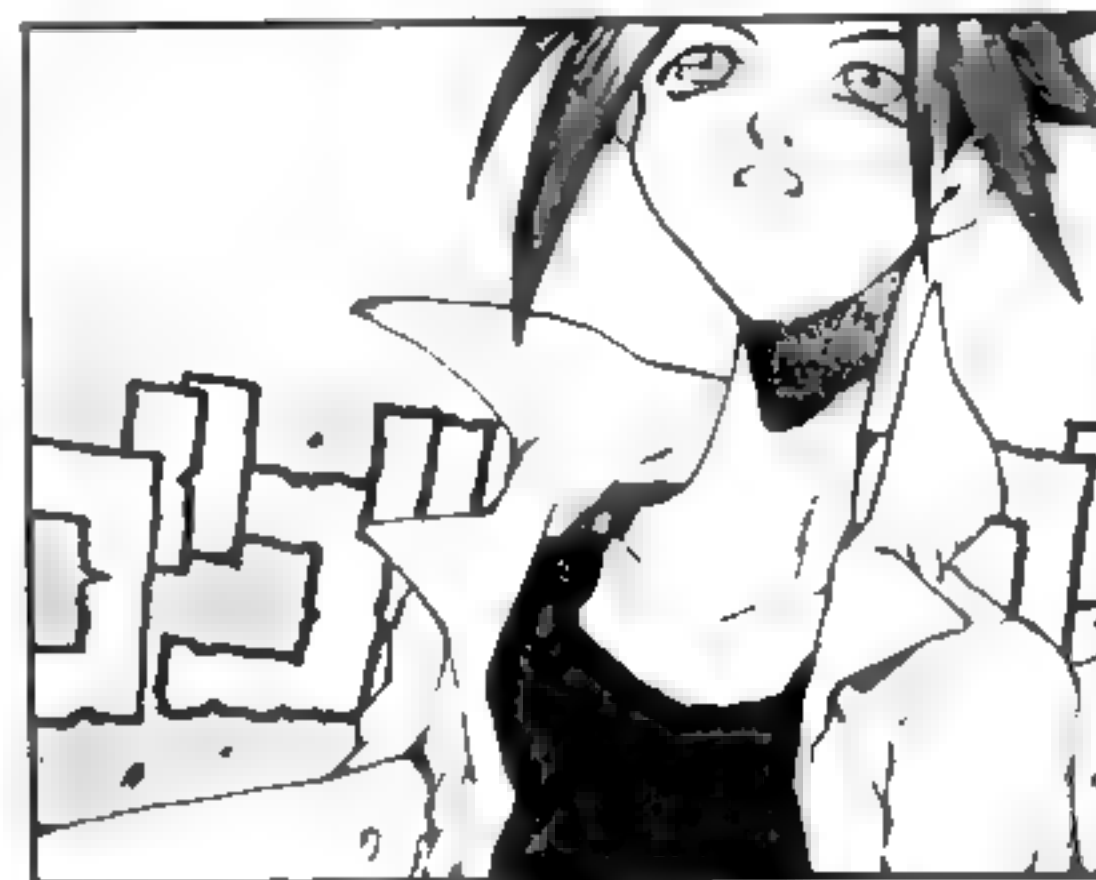
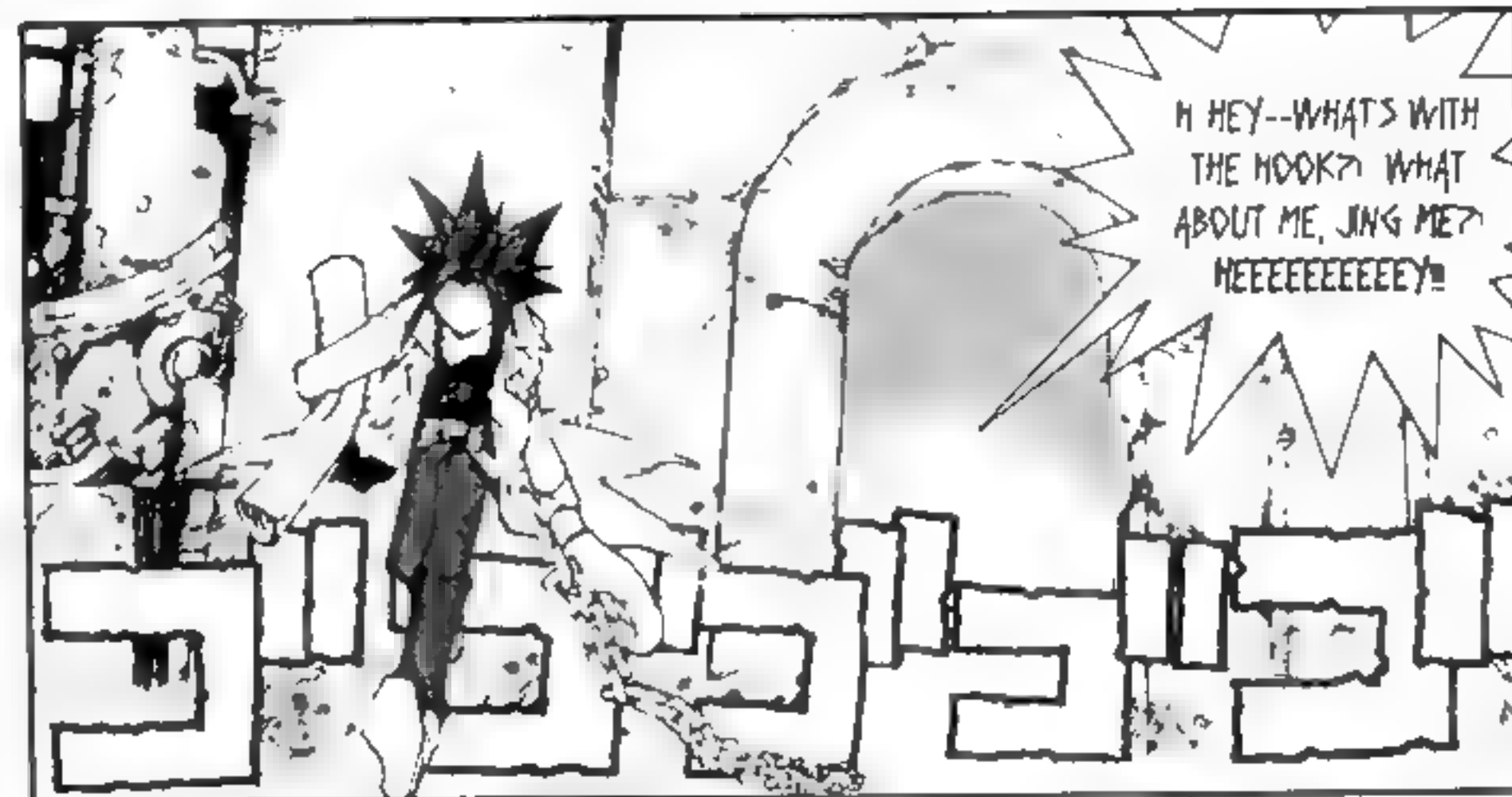
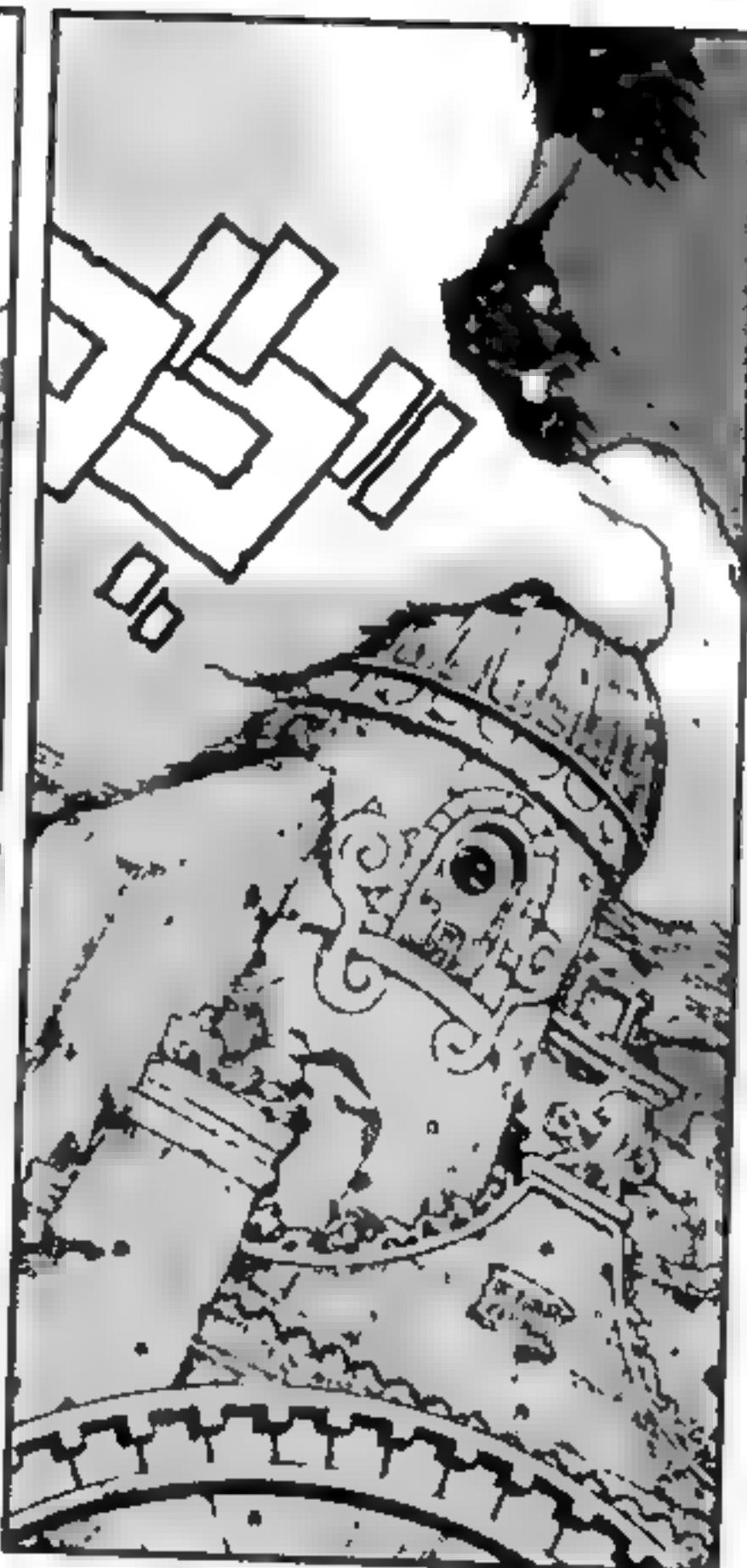


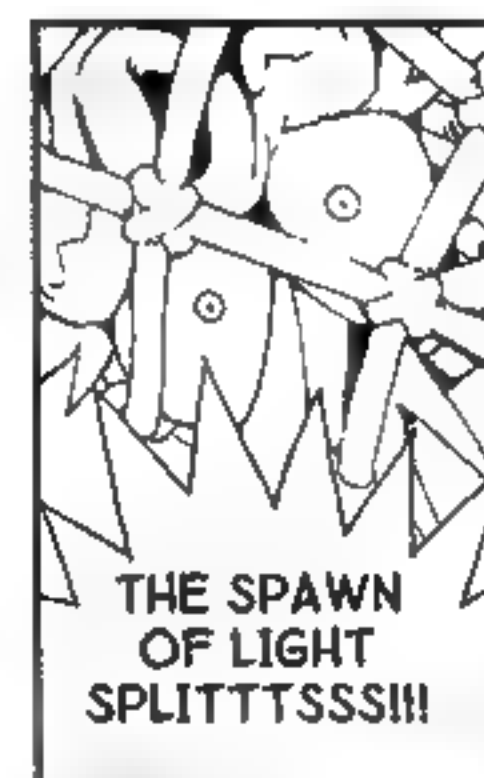
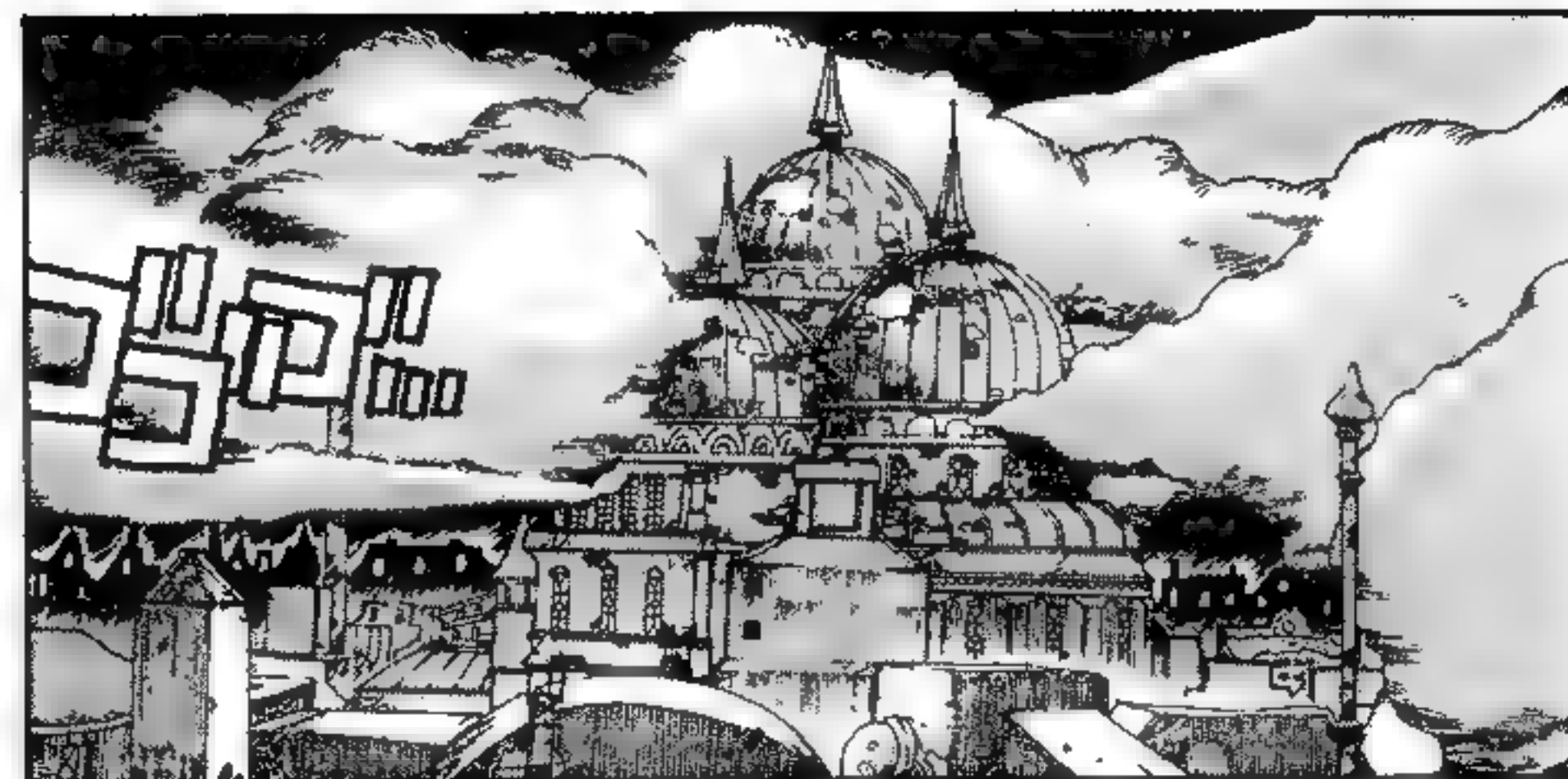
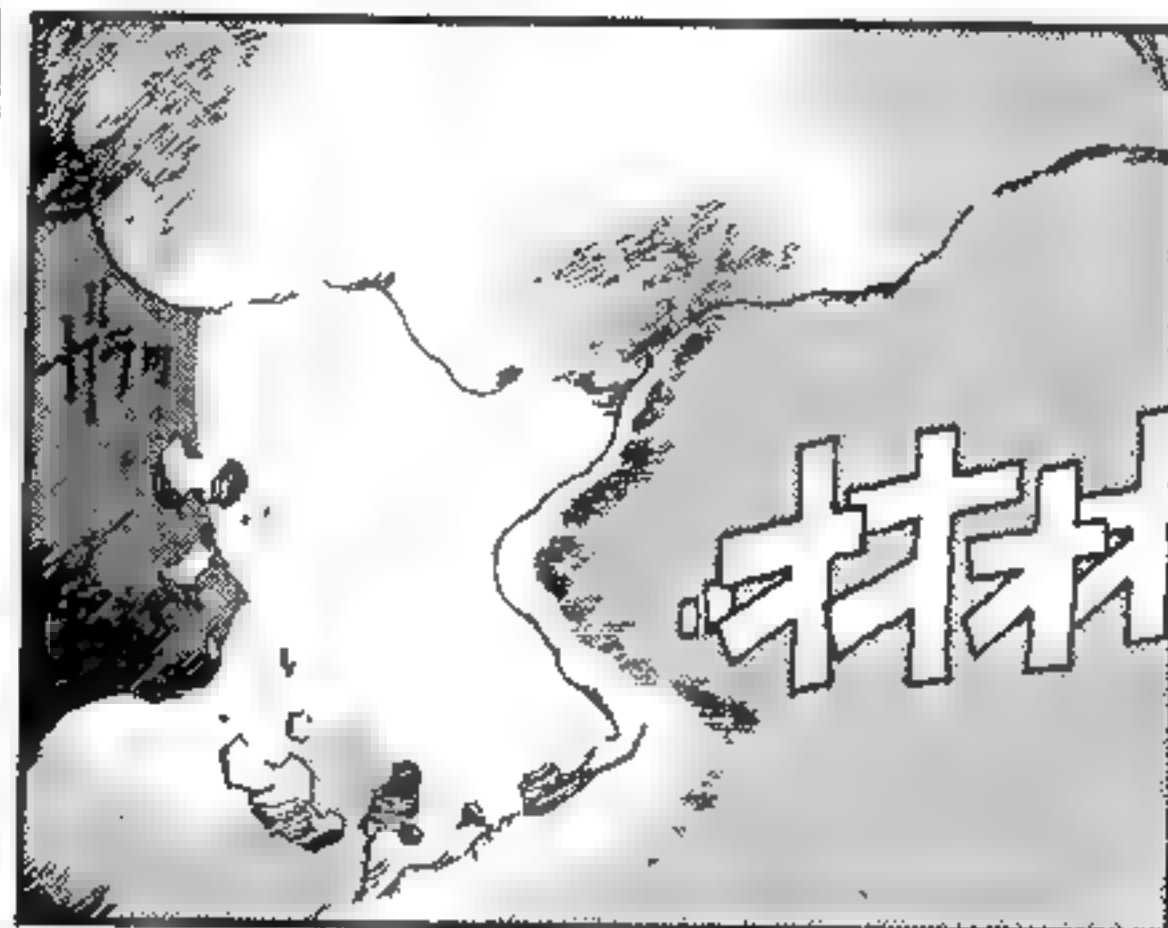
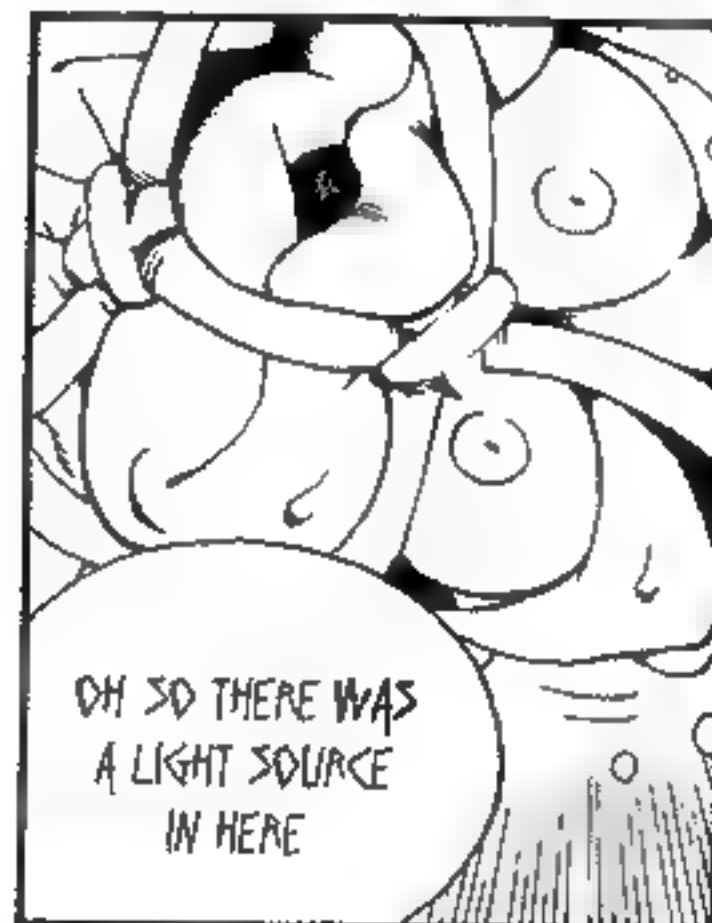


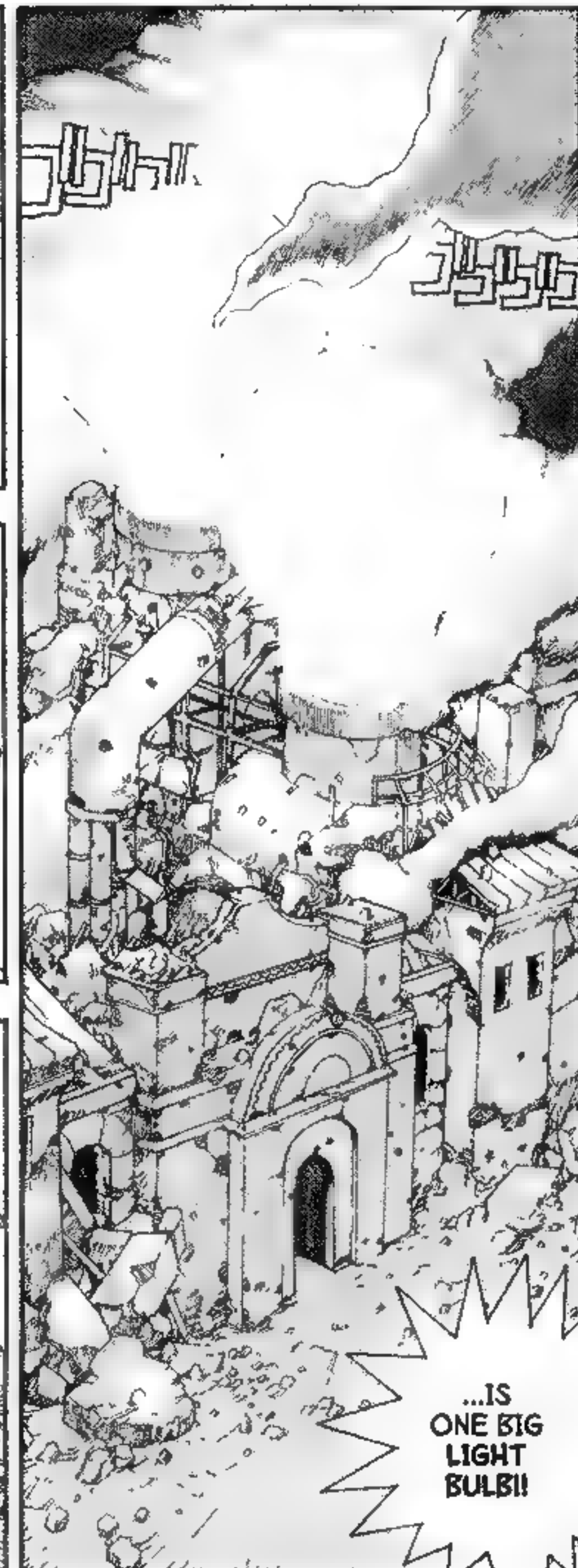
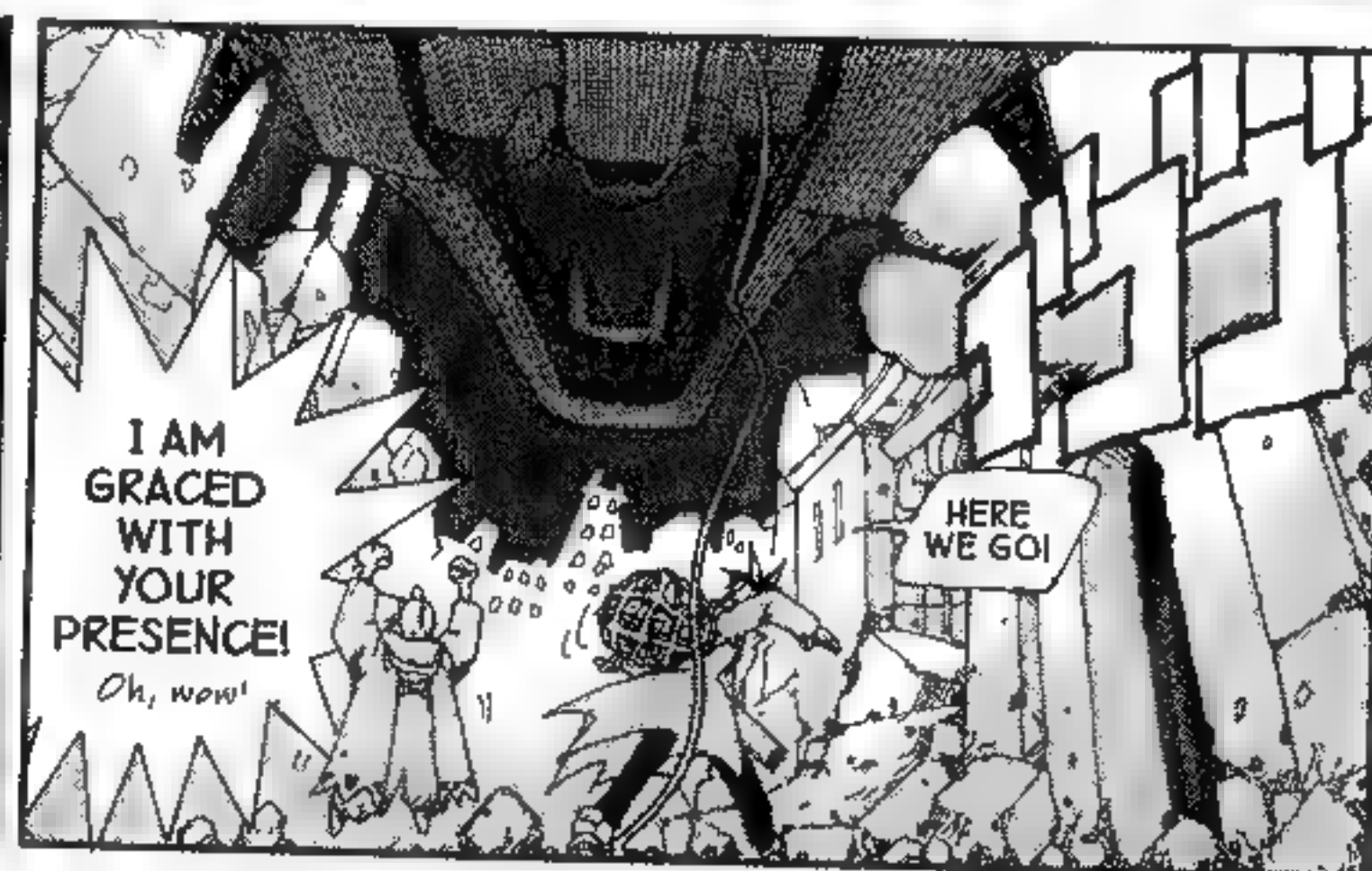
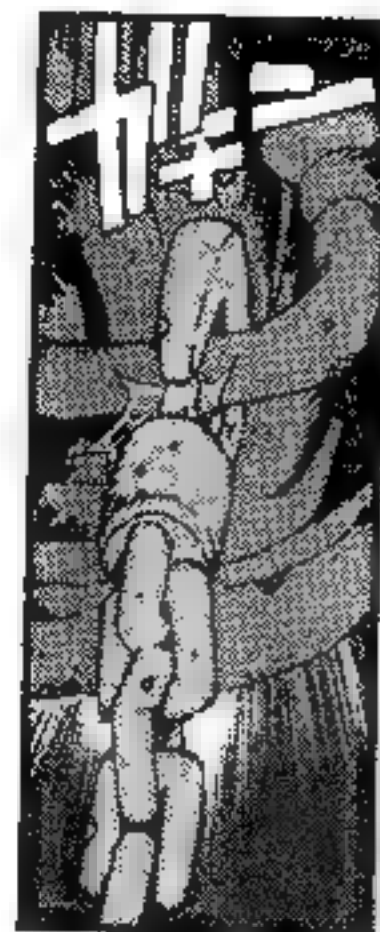
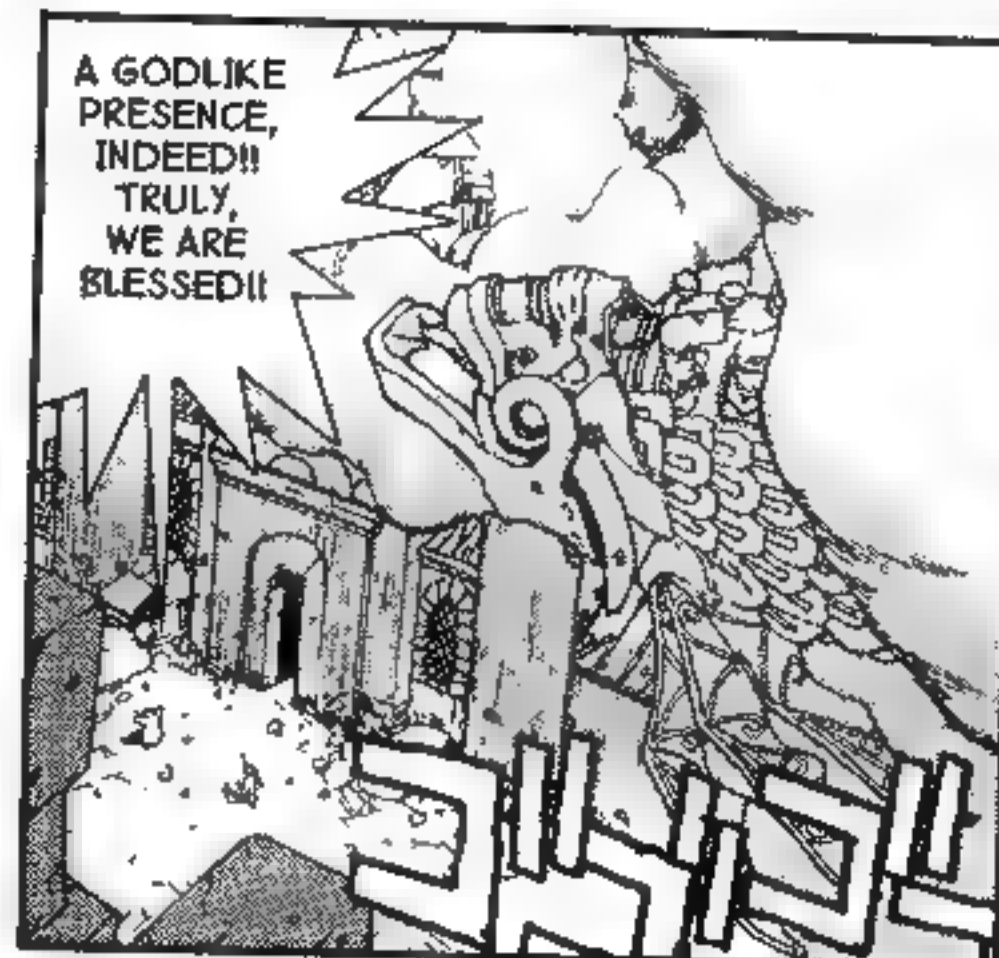
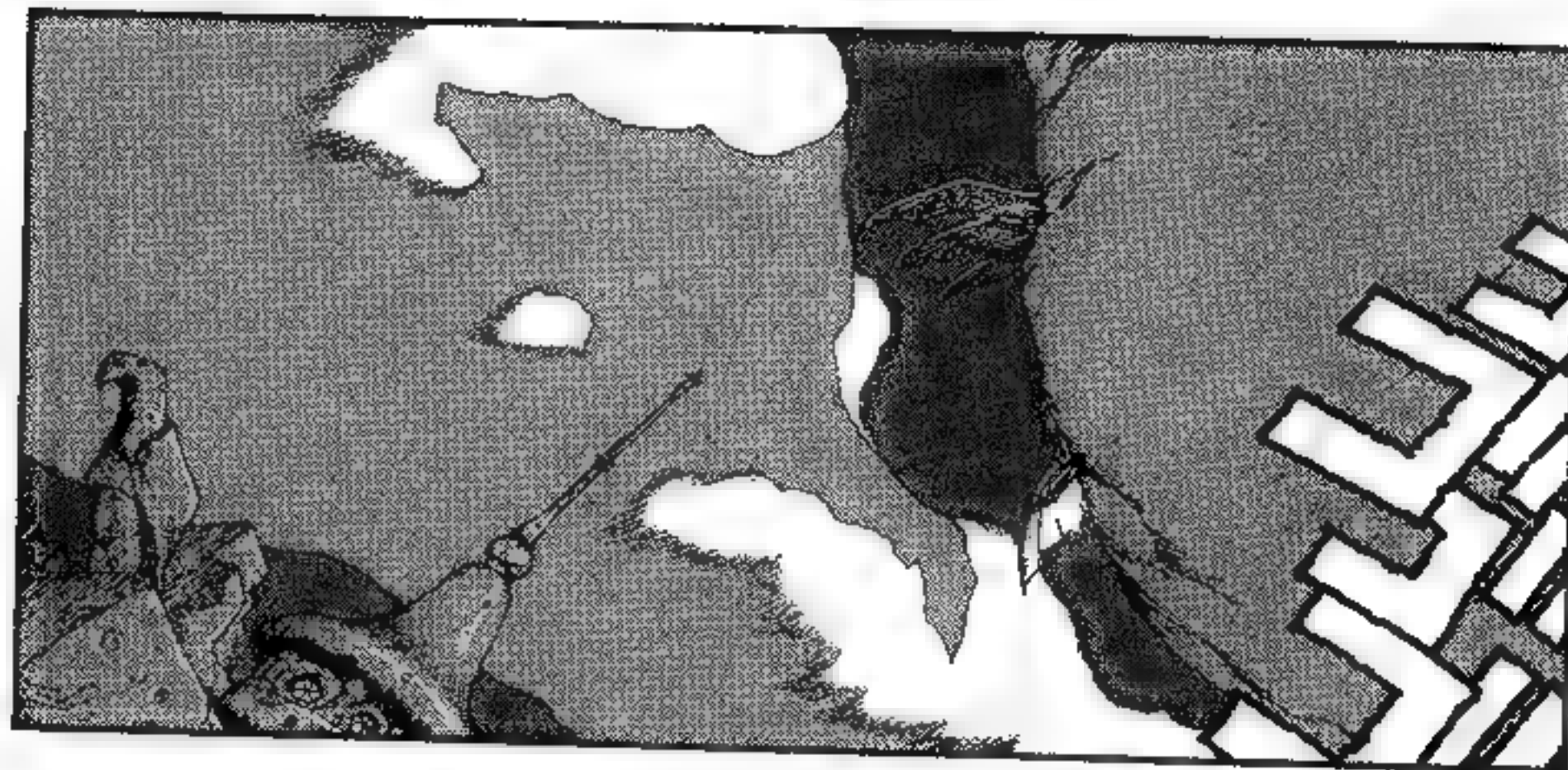


RIGHT, THEN. I'LL BE TAKING THAT MAP, IF YOU PLEASE. UNLESS...

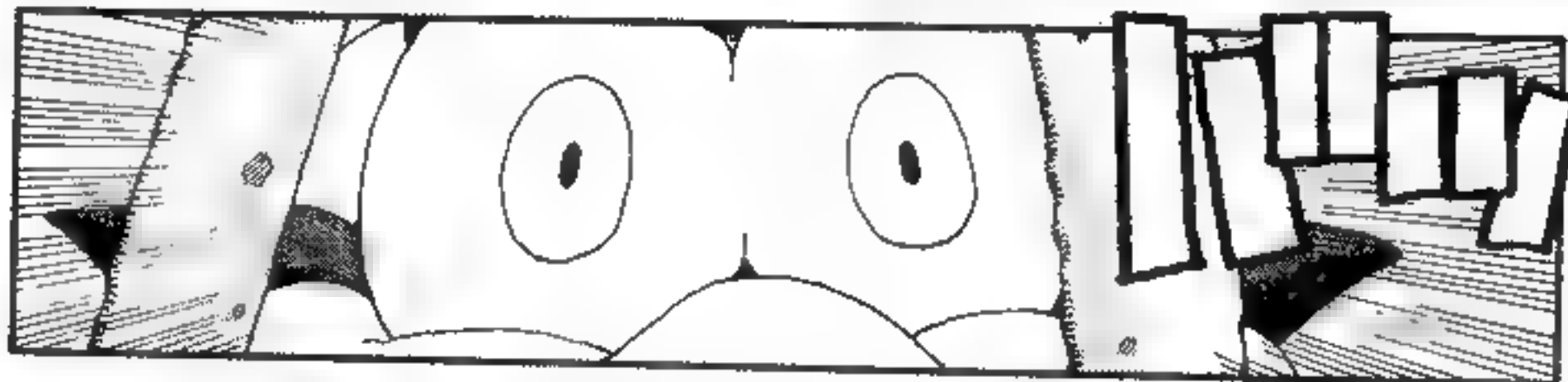
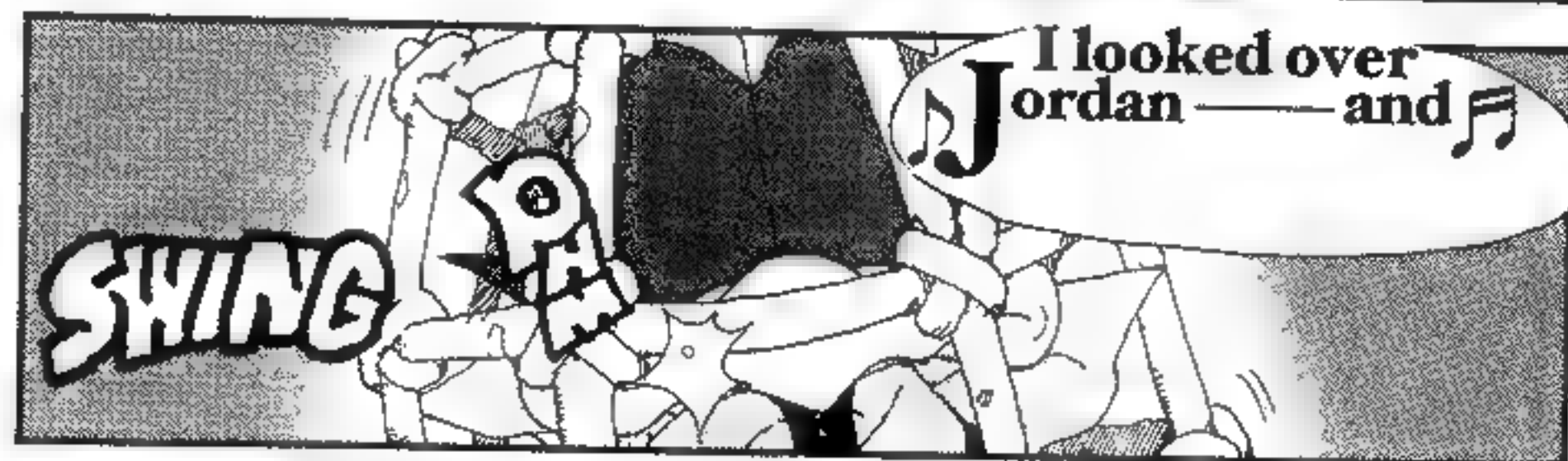
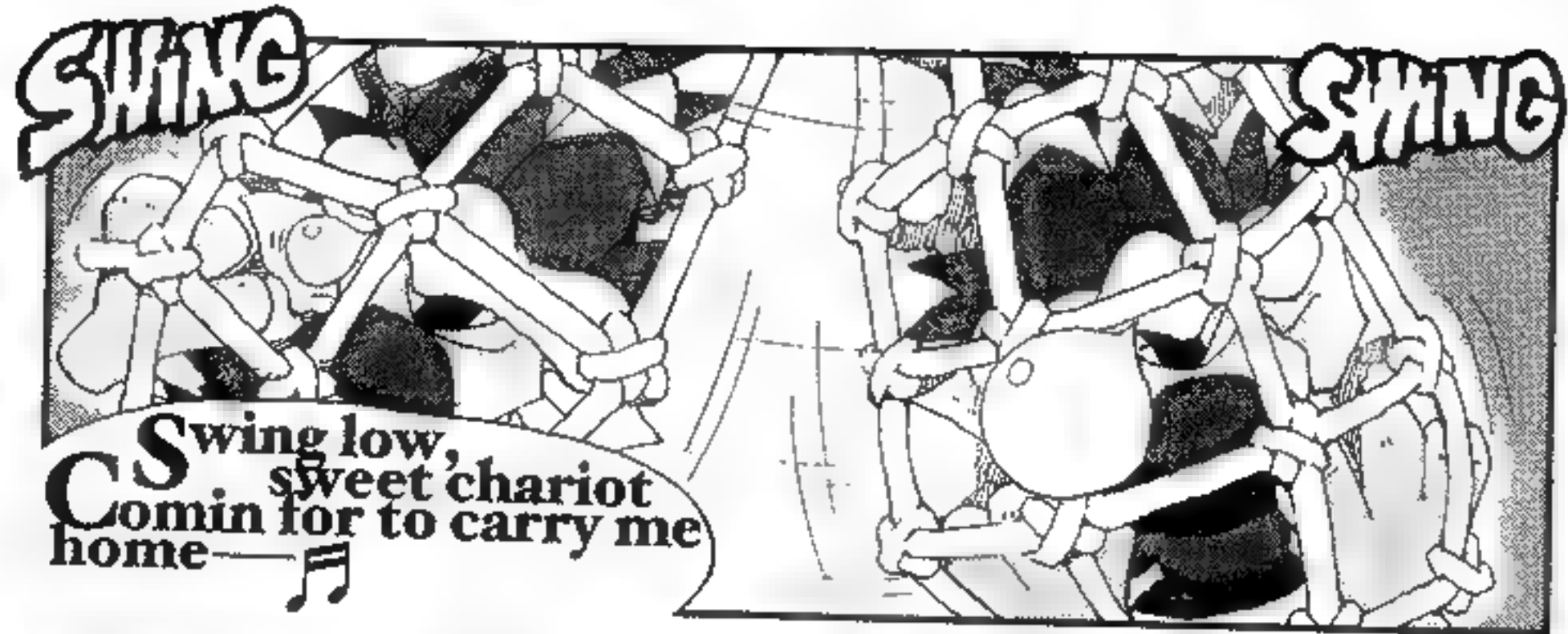


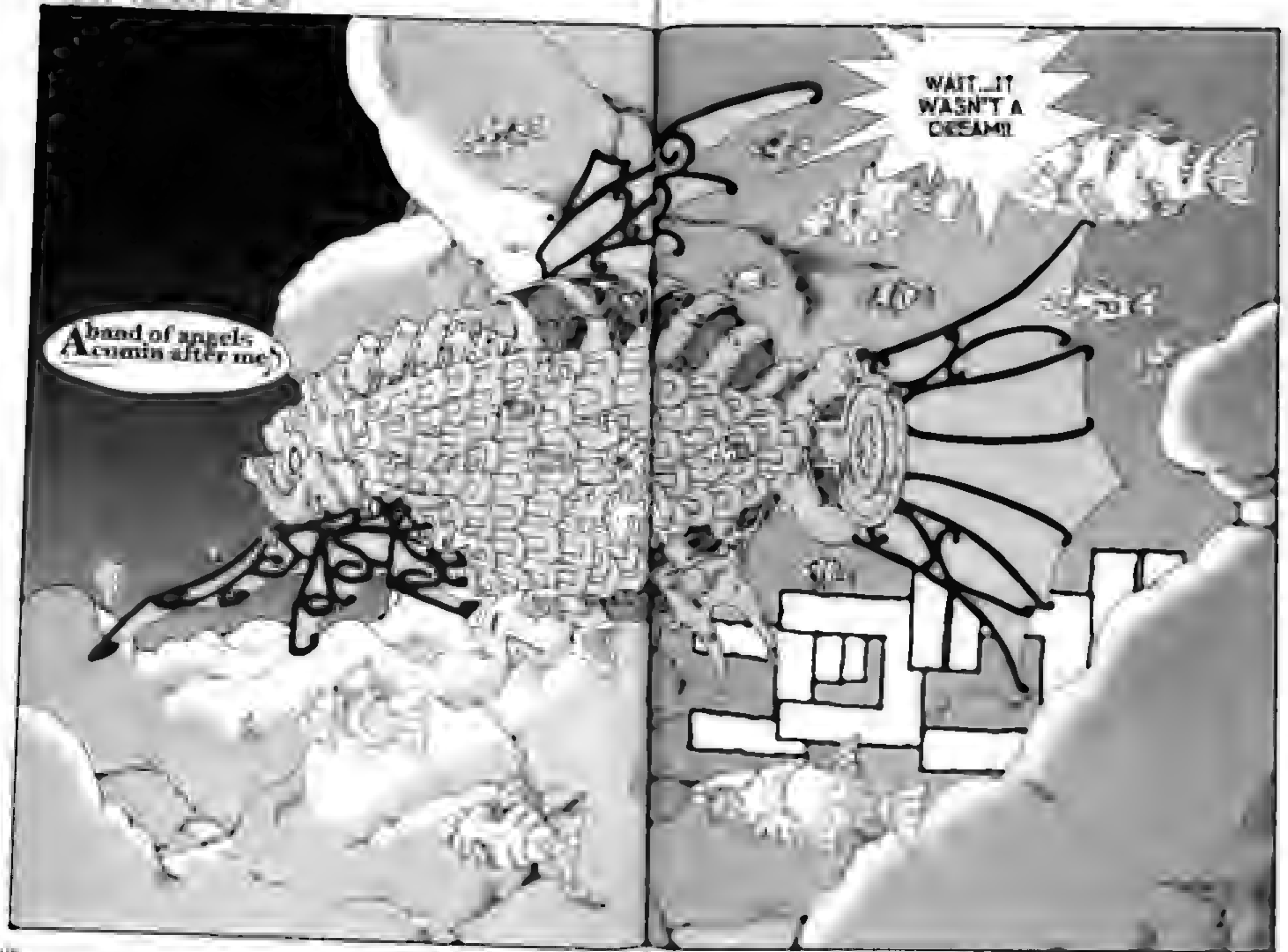






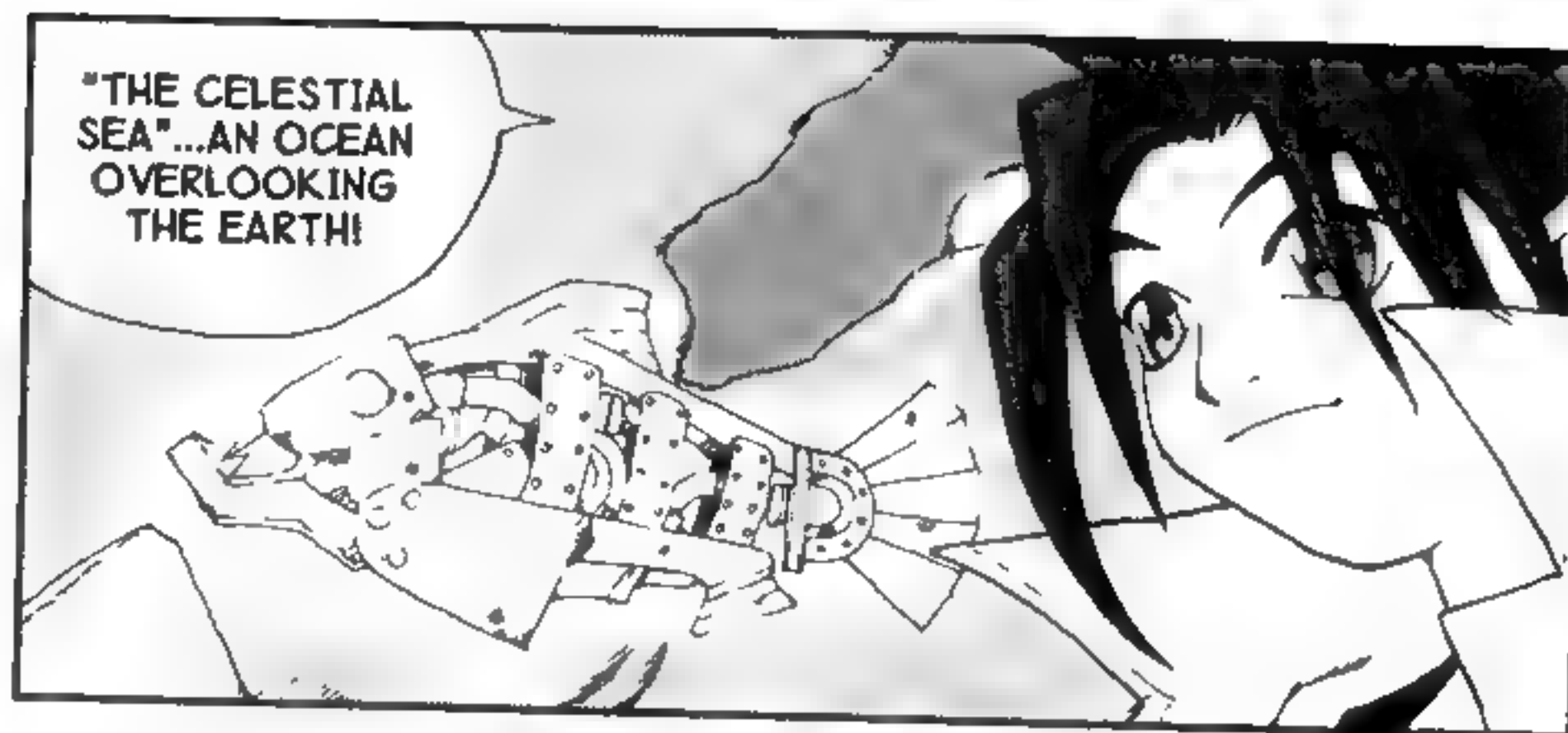






A band of angels
Accompany after me

WAIT...IT
WASN'T A
DREAM!



"THE CELESTIAL SEA"...AN OCEAN OVERLOOKING THE EARTH!



I SEE BOTH THE SKY AND THE SEA, EH HOLY GROUND HUM

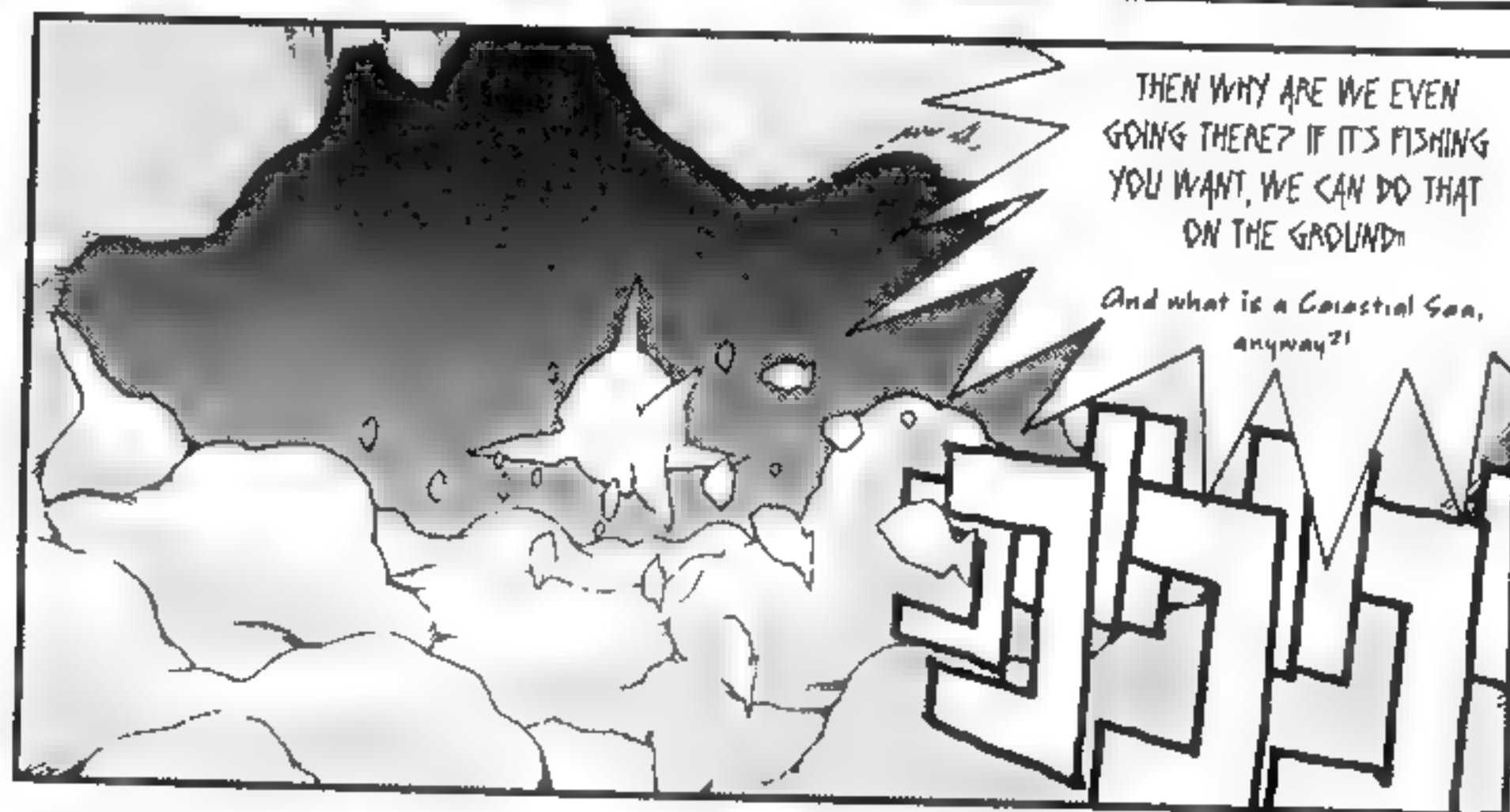
POP



AND FUZZY NAVEL IS THE MYSTERIOUS TOWN BUILT ON ITS SHORE.



THAT'S WHY WE'VE CAST THE FIRST DIE...AND THAT'S WHERE WE'RE HEADED!!



THEN WHY ARE WE EVEN GOING THERE? IF IT'S FISHING YOU WANT, WE CAN DO THAT ON THE GROUND!

And what is a Celestial Sea, anyway?!



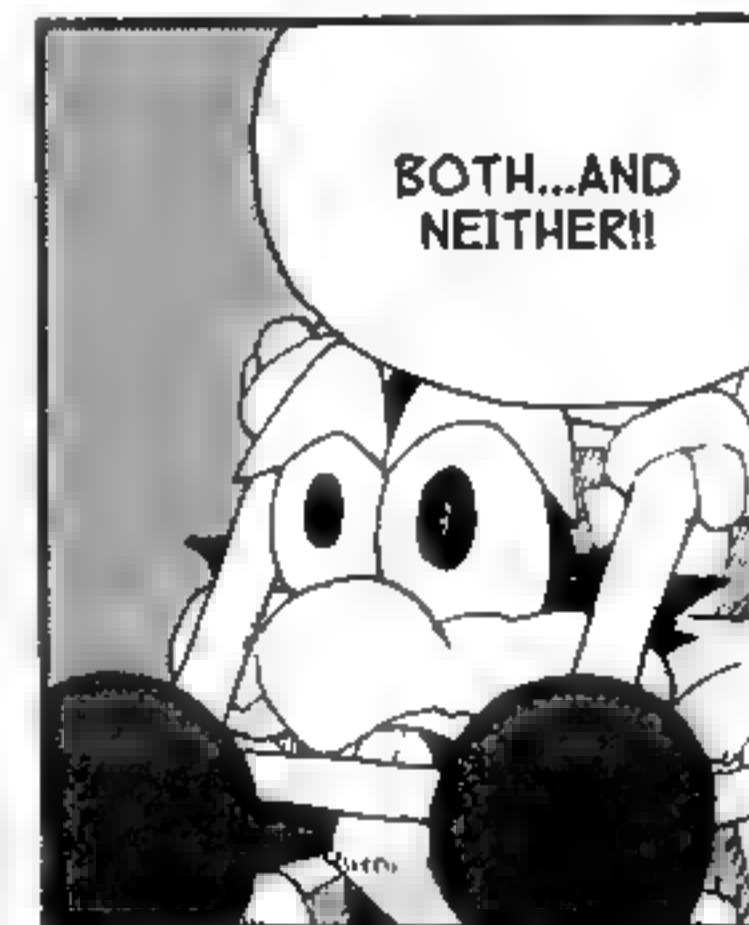
ELEMENTARY, MY DEAR ALBATROSS.

H-HEY JING! THE FISH- IT M-M-ULTRIFIED! HOW'D ALL THESE THINGS GET HERE?



SORT OF LIKE REMORA, OR SUCKERFISH. THEY ATTACH VIA SUCTION TO SHARKS, WHALES, SEA TURTLES, SHIPS' HULLS, ETC.

THE SMALL FISH ARE ATTRACTED TO THE UNUSUALLY ABUNDANT ELECTRICITY THIS BIG FISH IS EMITTING.



BOTH...AND NEITHER!!

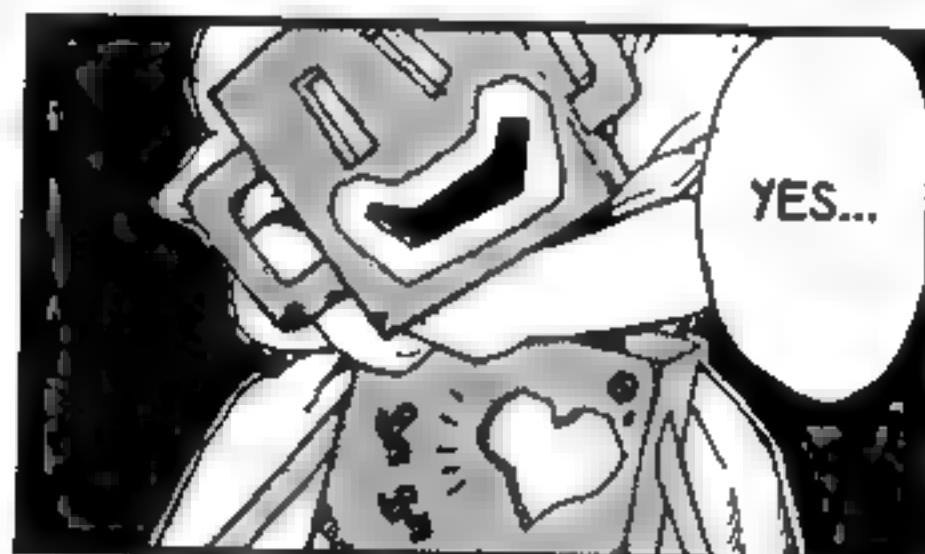


WELL, THAT'S ALL RIGHT FOR THEM! FISH CAN SCHOOL IN THE SKY NOT A CARE IN THE WORLD AND I, A BIRD AM STUCK IN THIS

WHERE DO THESE THINGS COME FROM ANYWAY? THE SEA? THE SKY?



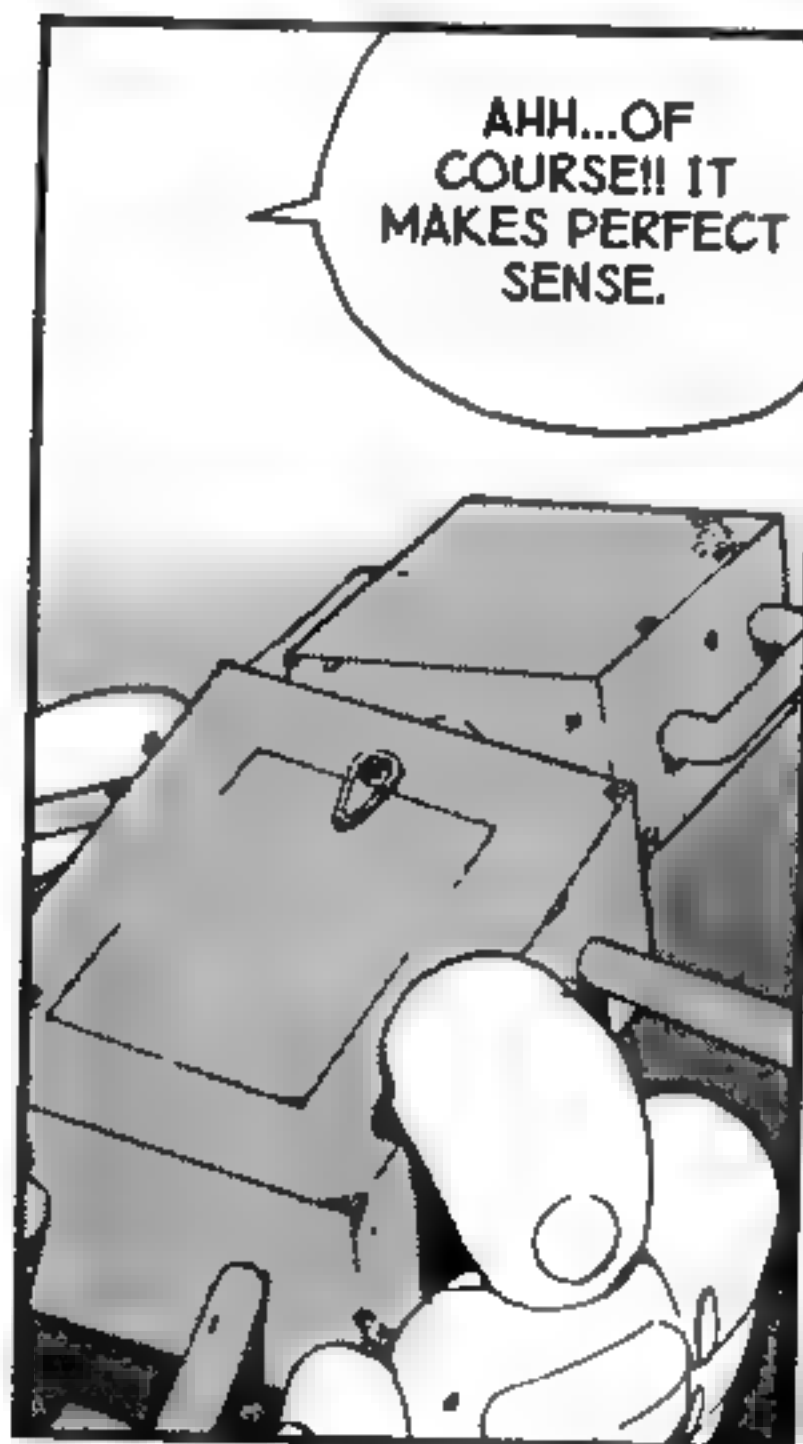
AH... YOU'RE FROM
THE SHERIFF'S
PLACE, AREN'T
YOU? AND THIS,
UM... ROBOT... IS
IT YOURS?



YES...



...W-WILL
THIS
HELP?

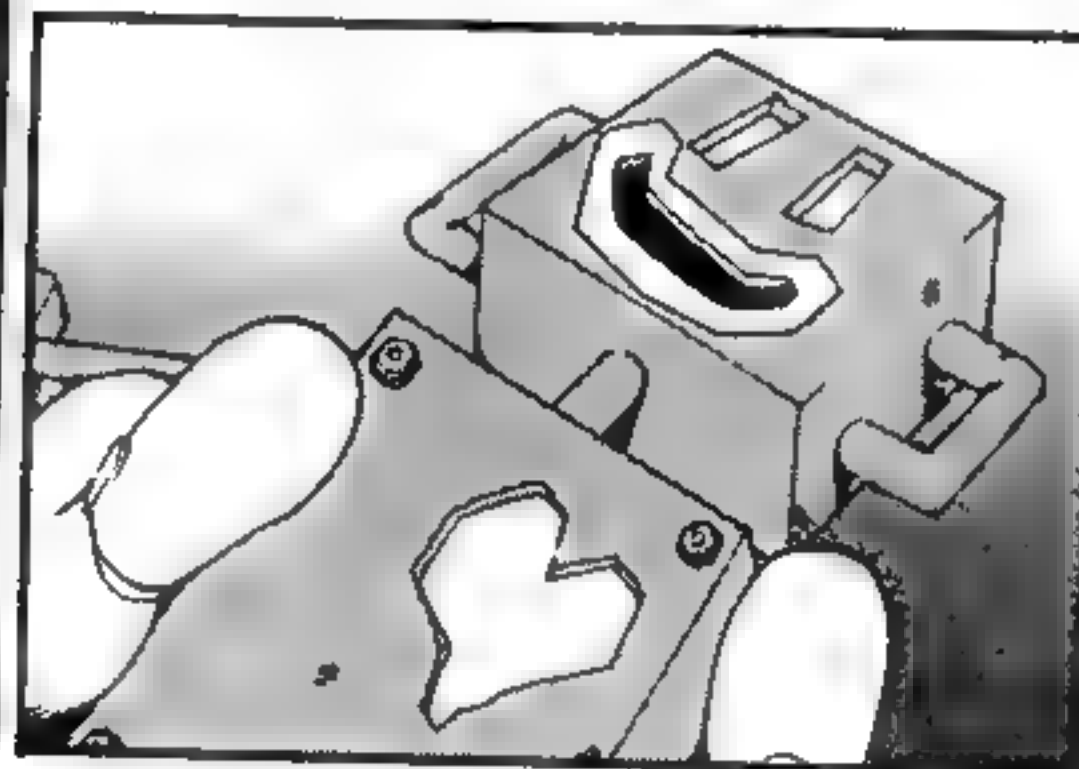


AHH... OF
COURSE!! IT
MAKES PERFECT
SENSE.

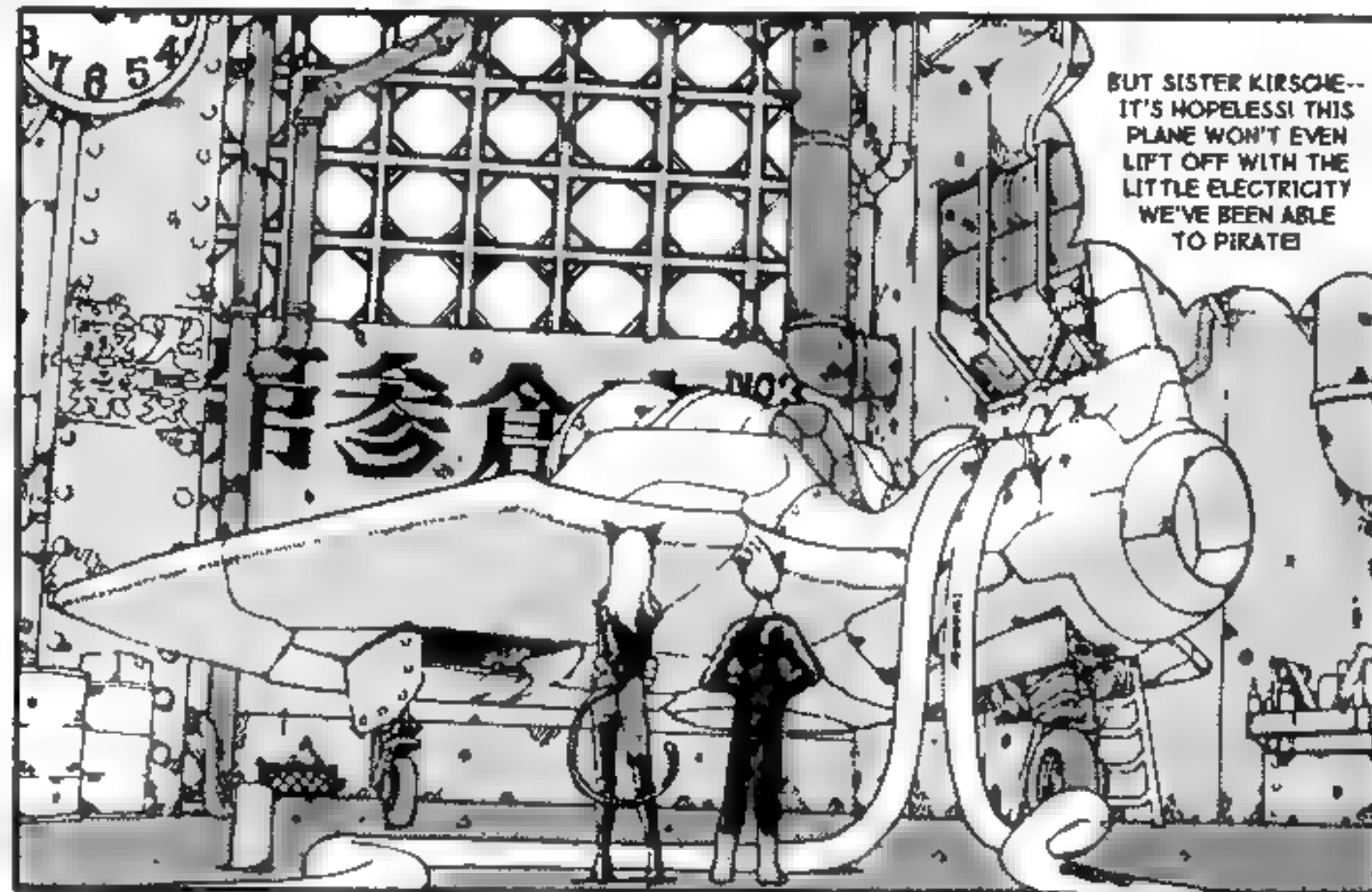


C'MON, LITTLE
LADY... SISTER'S
BUSY RIGHT NOW.
THE TOY, TOO...

WAIT.



THEY'RE
HEADED
FOR THE
CELESTIAL
SEA--I'D
BET MY LIFE
ON IT!!



BUT SISTER KIRSCH--
IT'S HOPELESS! THIS
PLANE WON'T EVEN
LIFT OFF WITH THE
LITTLE ELECTRICITY
WE'VE BEEN ABLE
TO PIRATE!



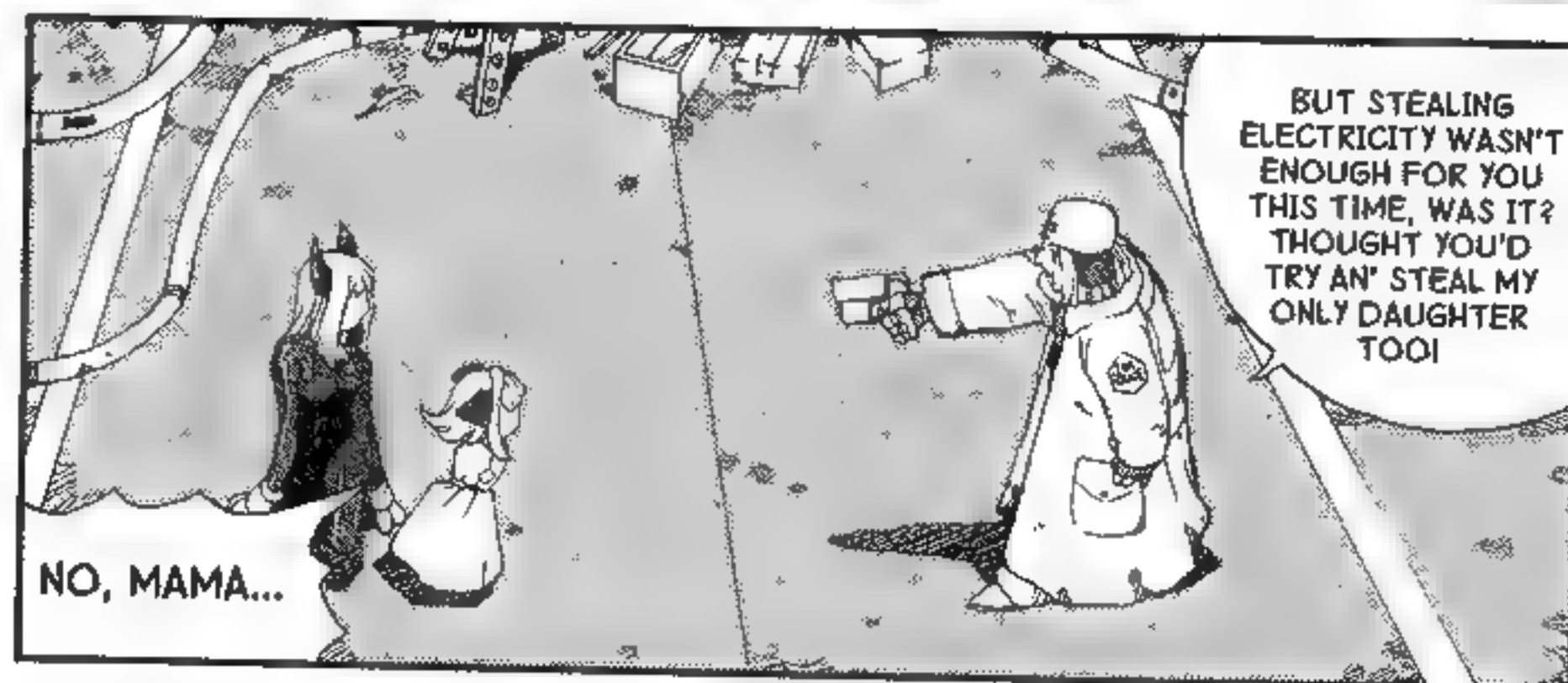
UM...



GREAT! AND AS WE
SIT HERE HELPLESSLY
ON THE GROUND...
THAT FISH IS ON
ITS WAY TO FUZZY
NAVEL!!



I'VE HEARD OF
YOUR LITTLE GANG.
THE STRAY CATS
ELECTRICITY
STEALIN' GANG...
AM I RIGHT?



BUT STEALING
ELECTRICITY WASN'T
ENOUGH FOR YOU
THIS TIME, WAS IT?
THOUGHT YOU'D
TRY AN' STEAL MY
ONLY DAUGHTER
TOO!

NO, MAMA...



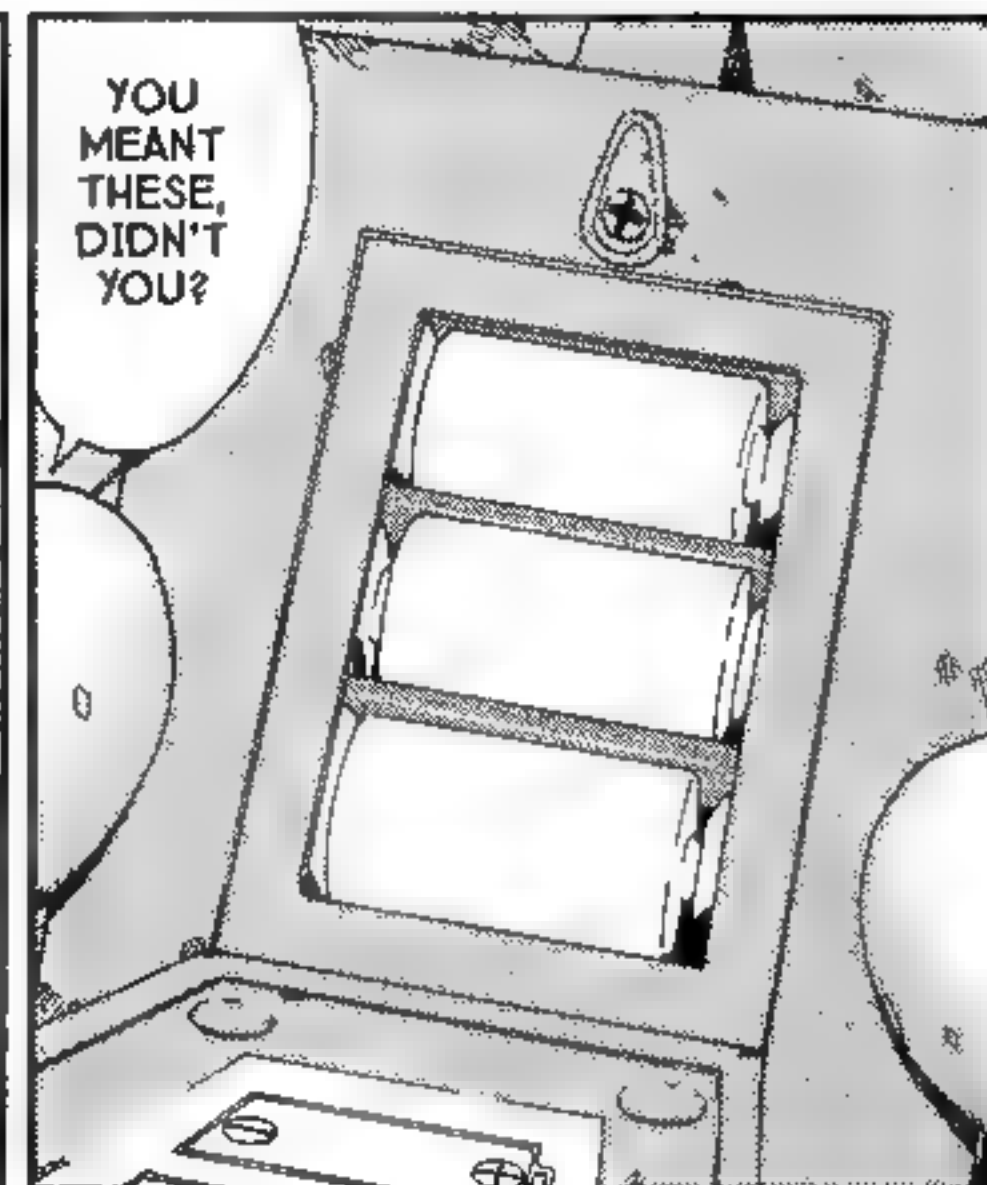
ALTHOUGH... I DO
KNOW WHAT Y'ALL
HAVE BEEN DOIN'
FOR THE POOR
FOLKS OF THIS
TOWN. HECK, MY
OWN DAUGHTER'S A
FAN, IT SEEMS.
SO, IN LIGHT
OF ALL THAT..



DON'T
MATTER.
I'M PUTTIN'
YOU ALL UNDER
ARREST...IT
IS MY JOB.



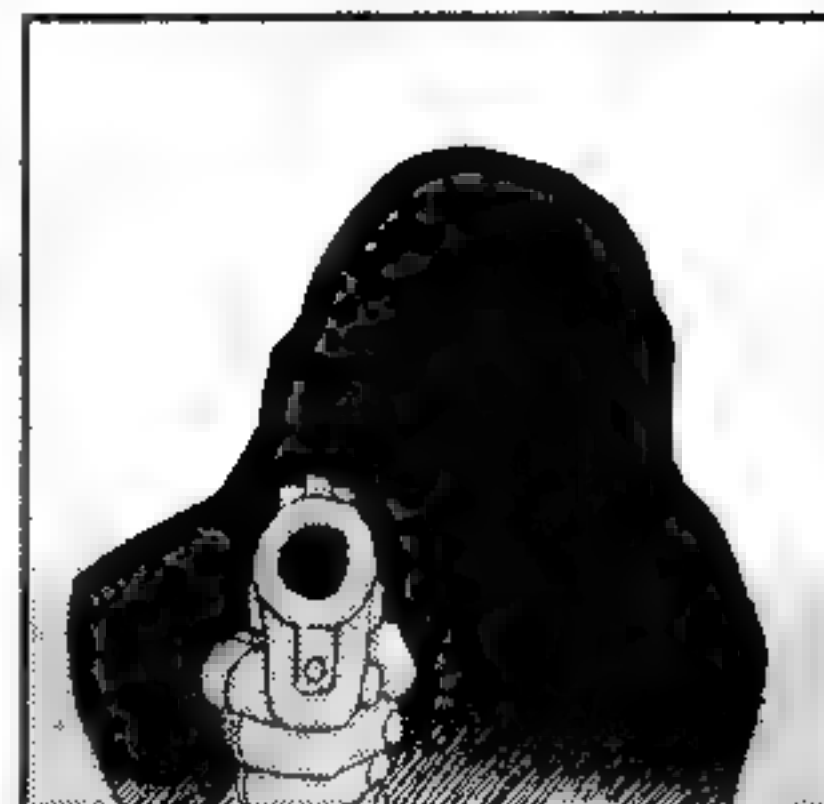
ARE YOU...
GIVING THESE
BATTERIES...
TO ME?



YOU
MEANT
THESE,
DIDN'T
YOU?

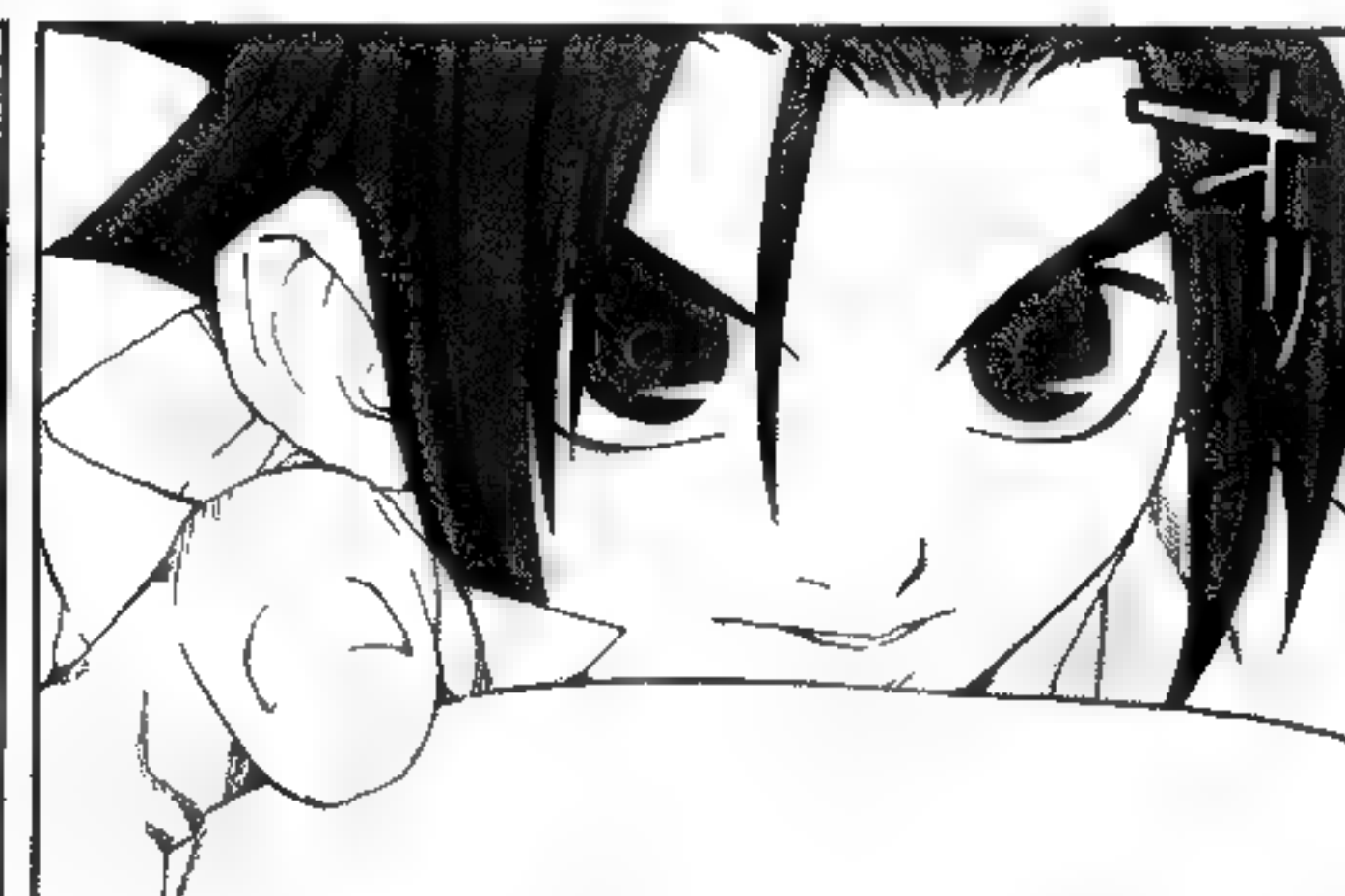
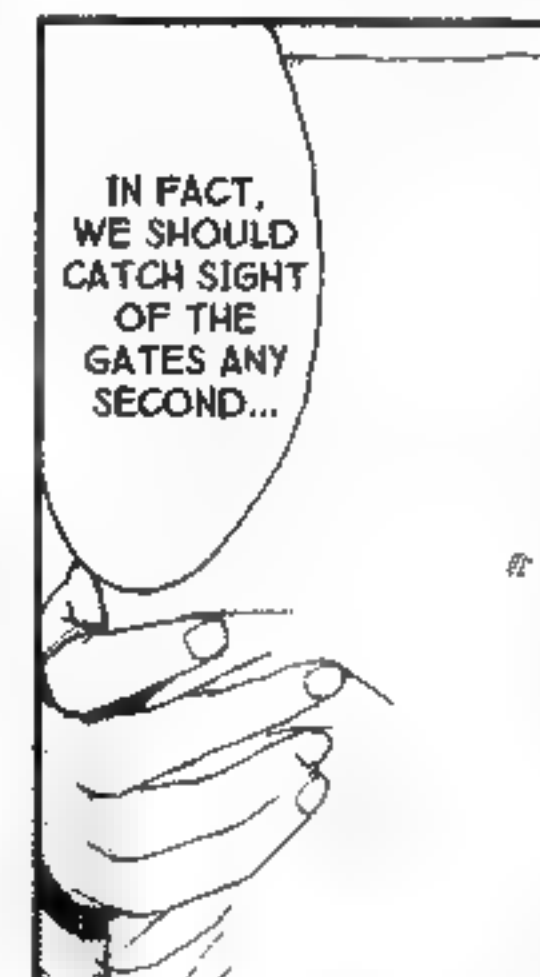
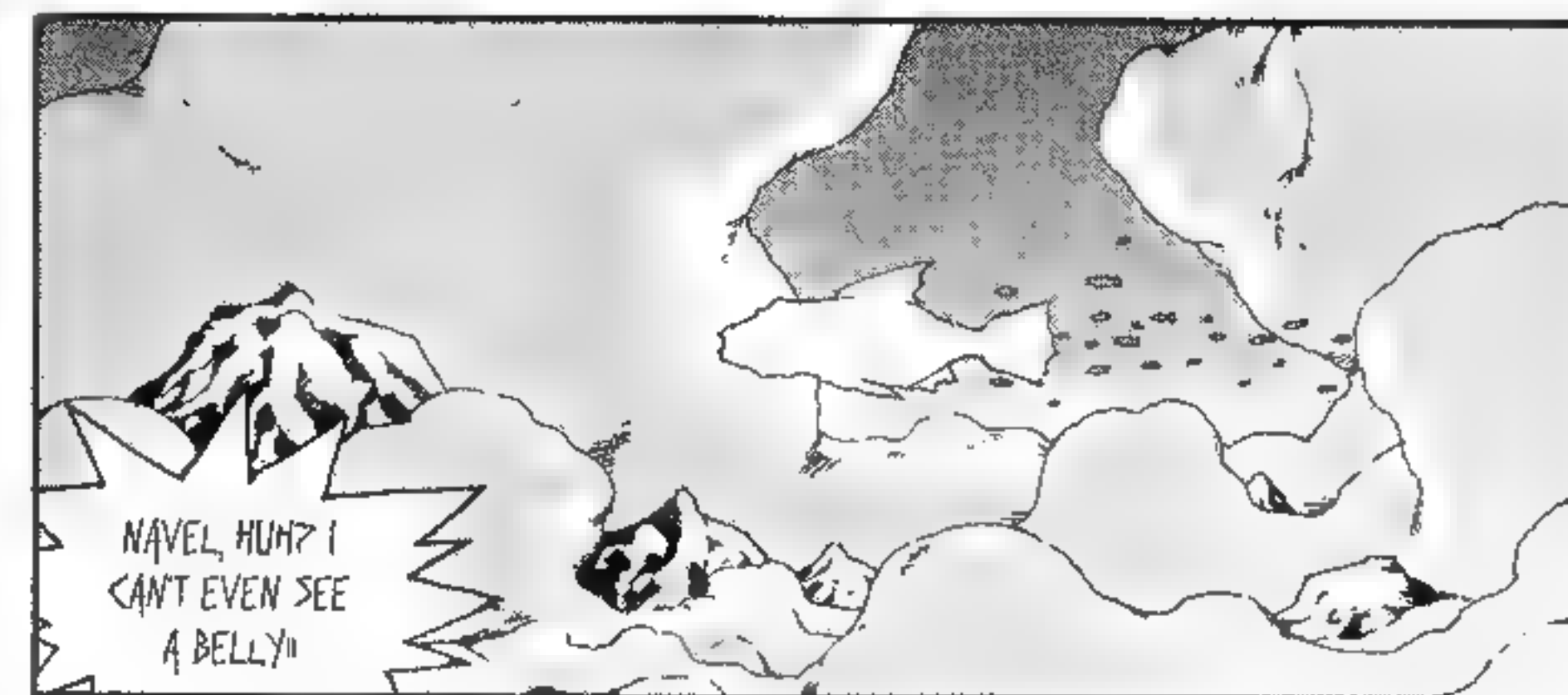
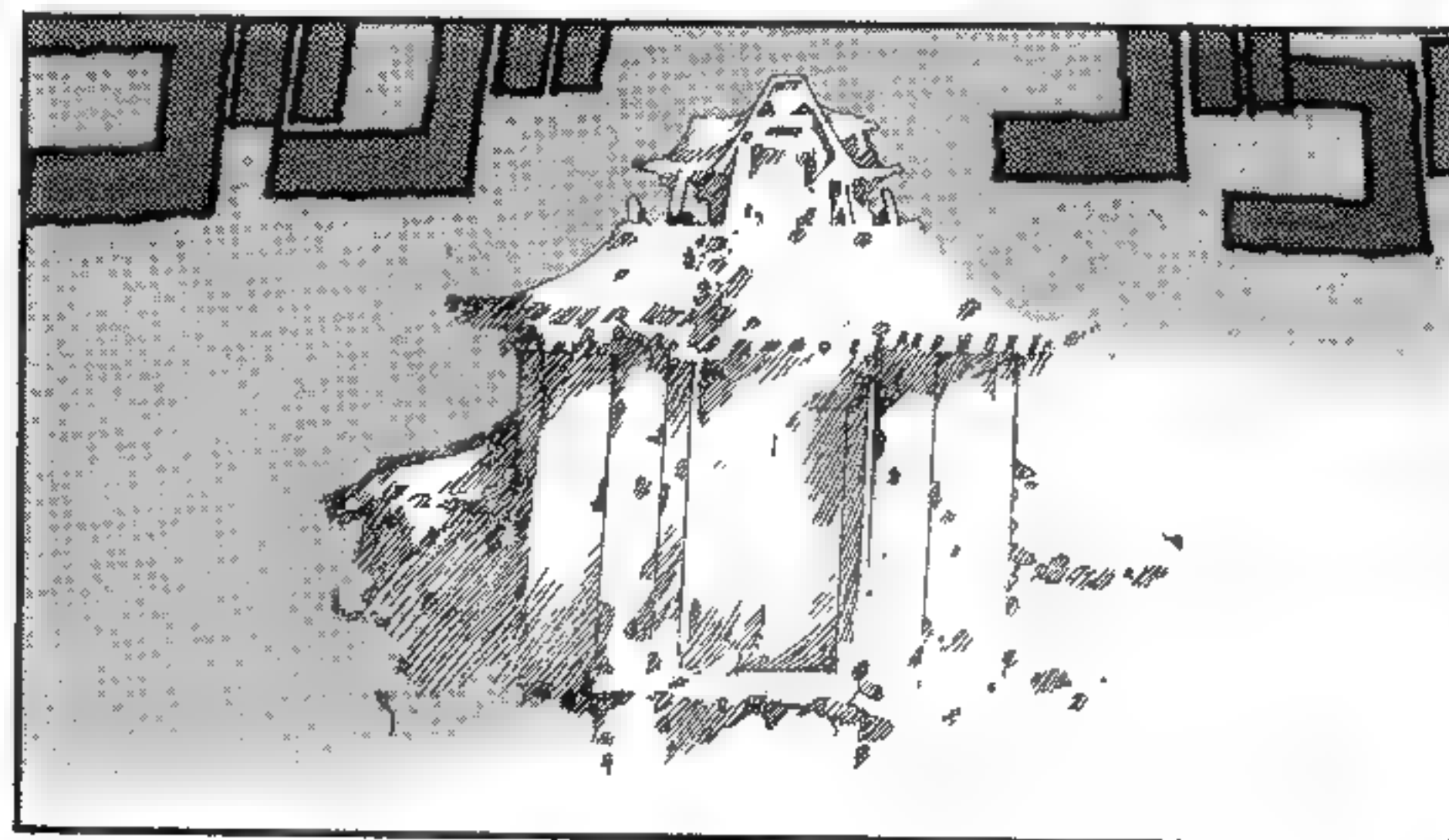
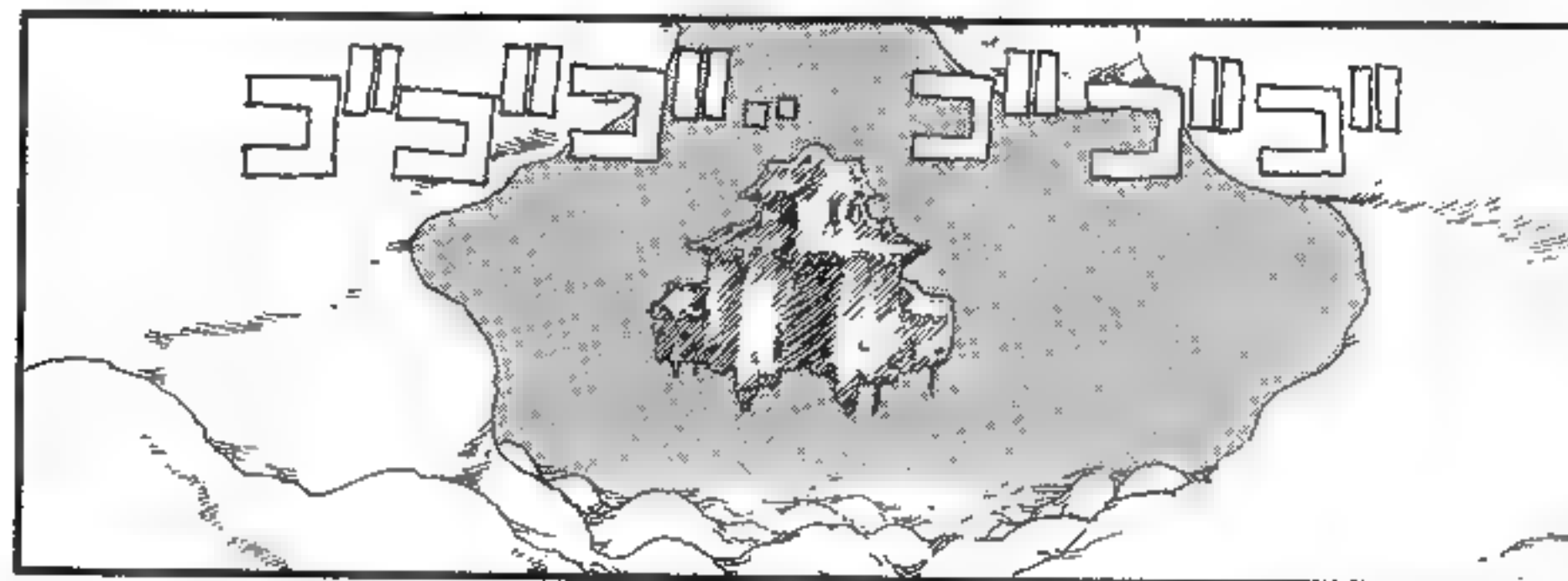
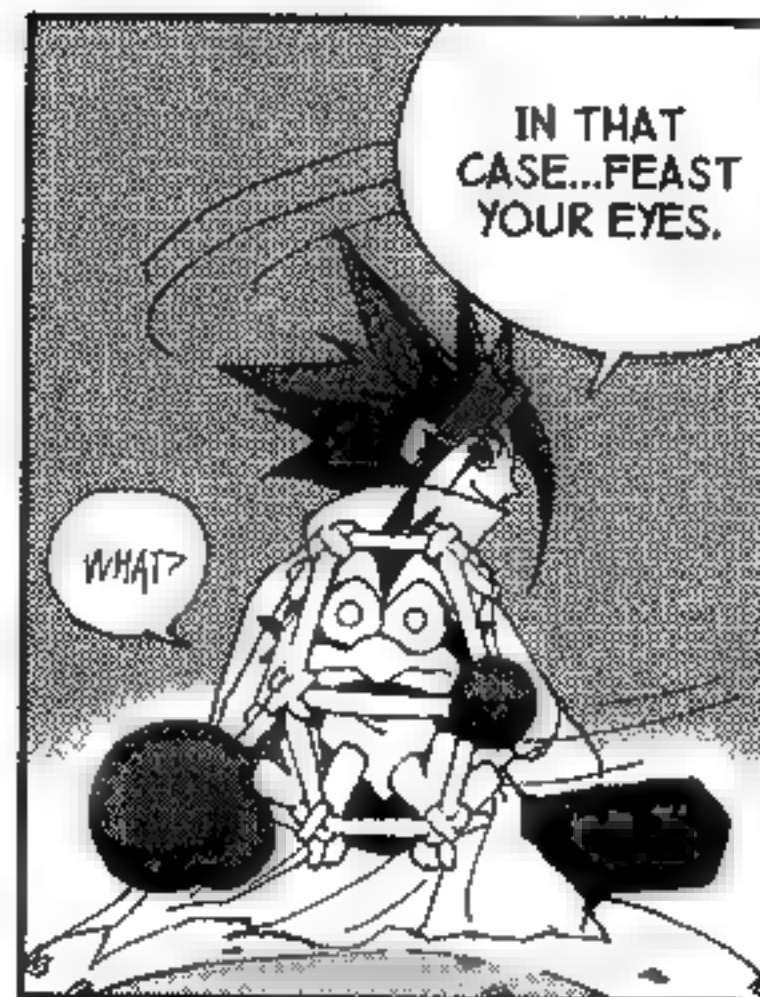


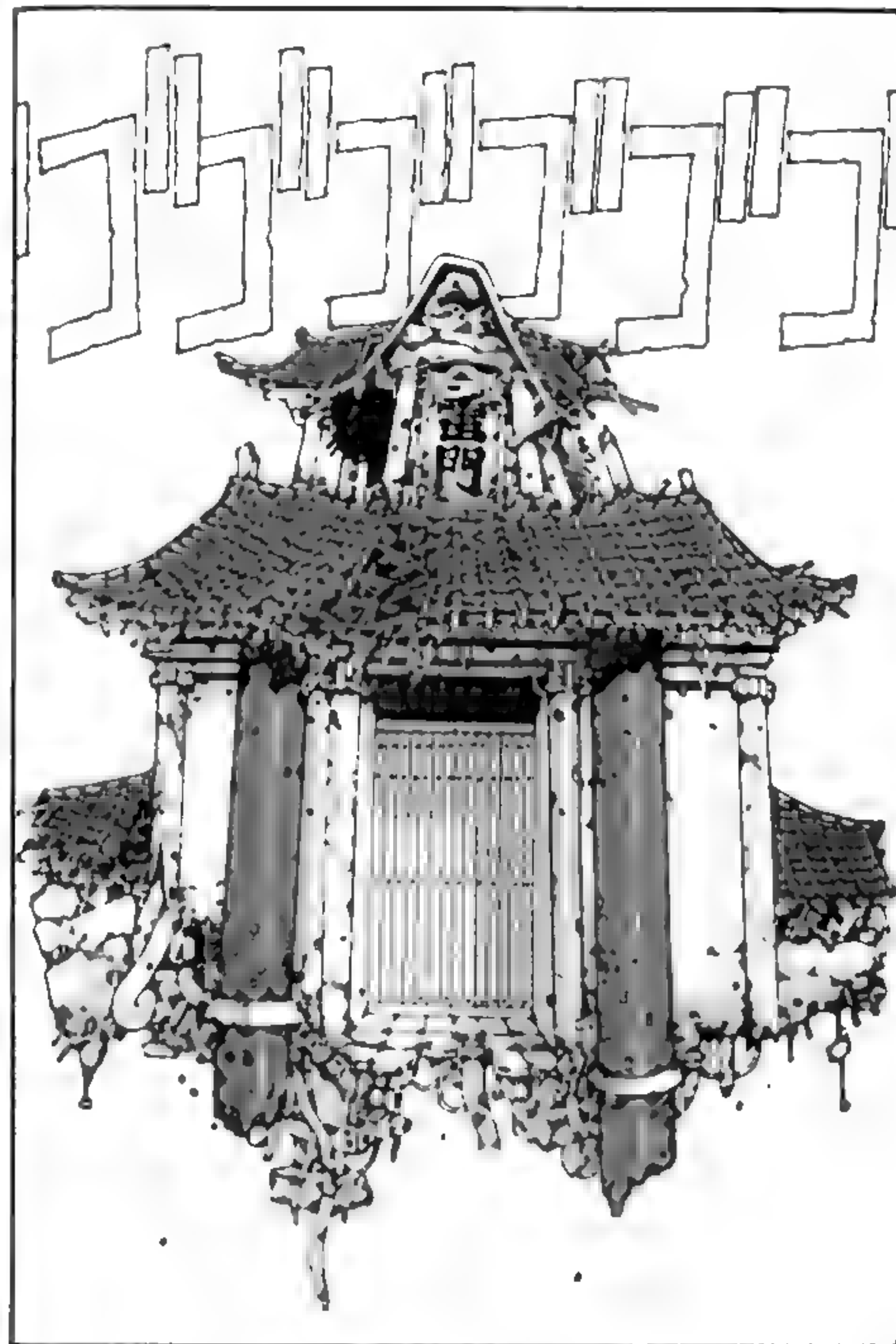
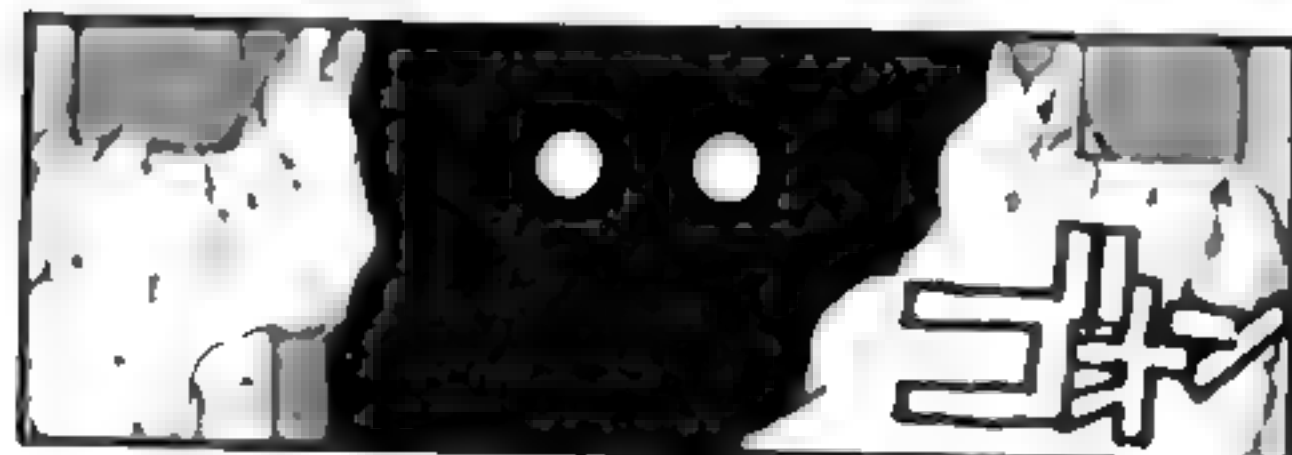
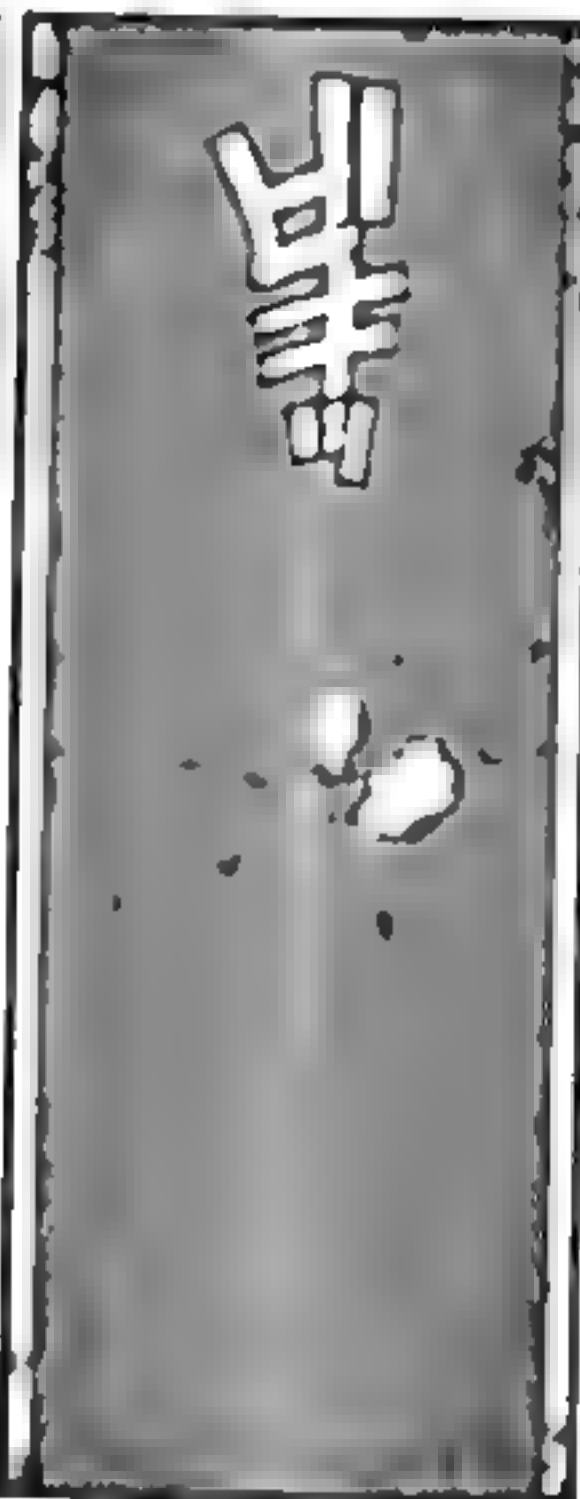
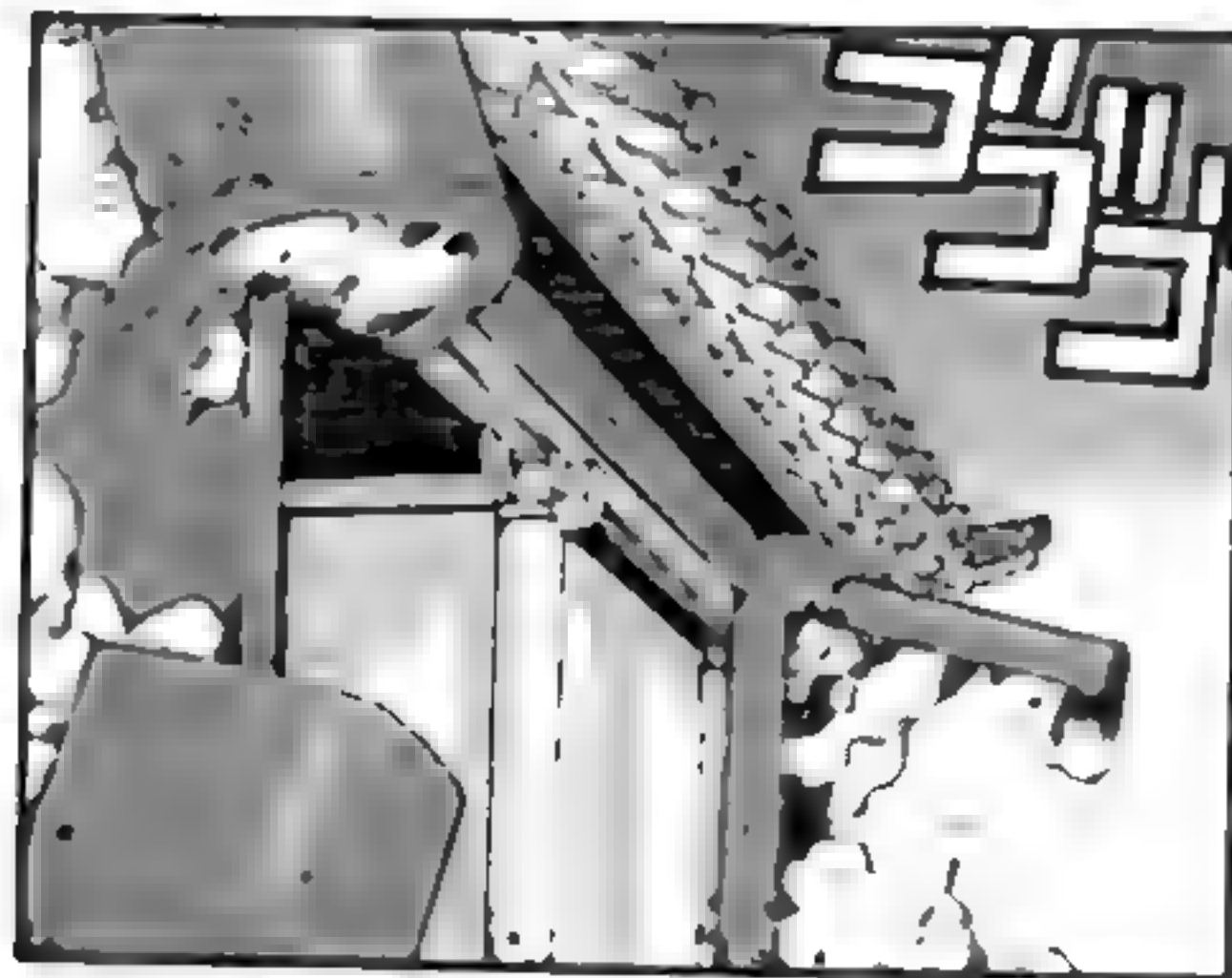
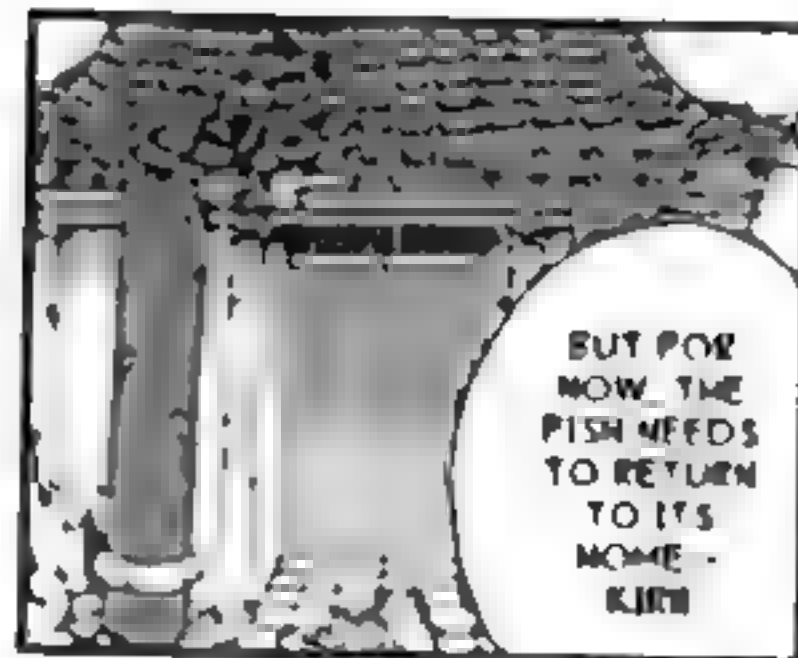
THANK
YOU!!
YOU'RE AN
ANGEL.

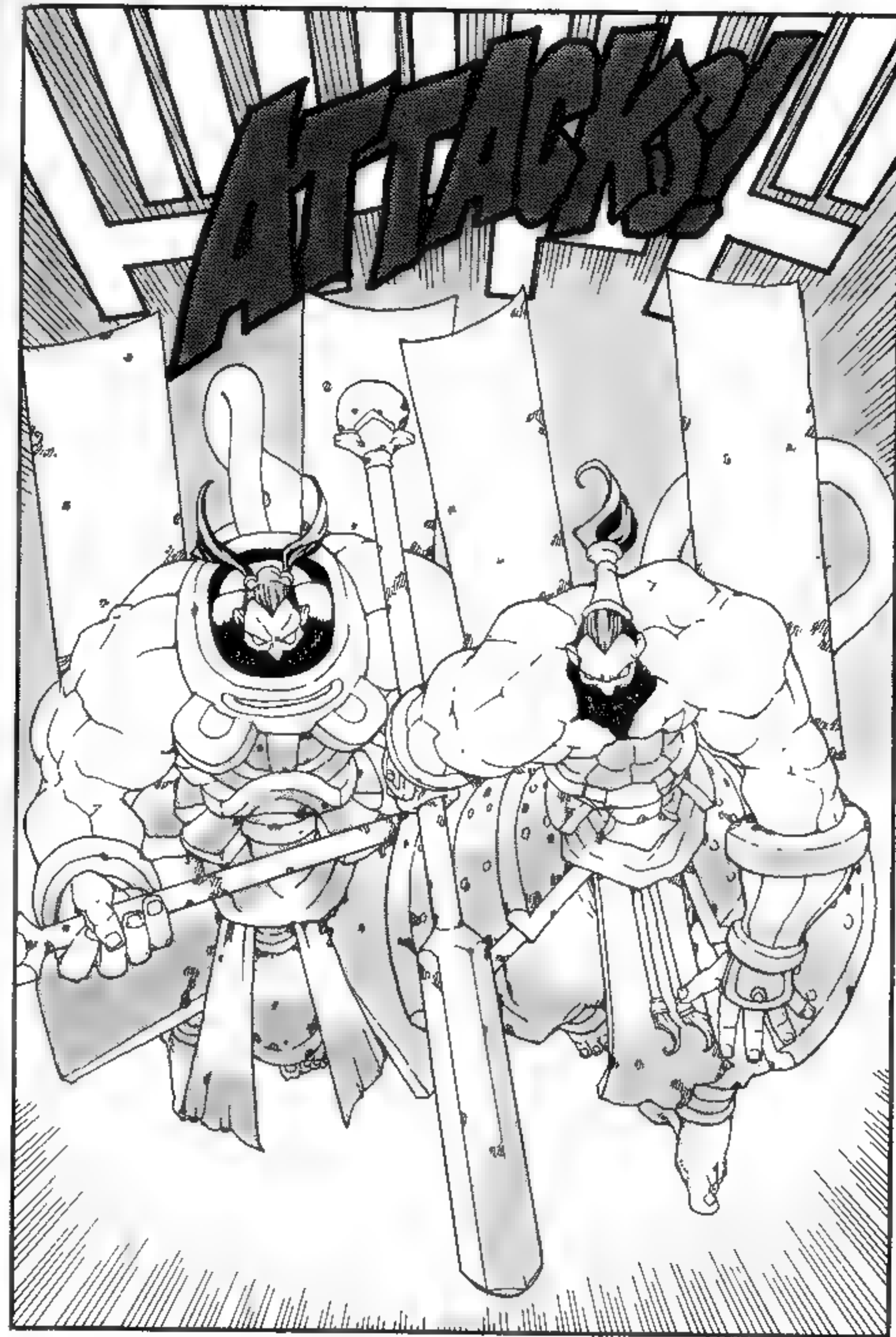
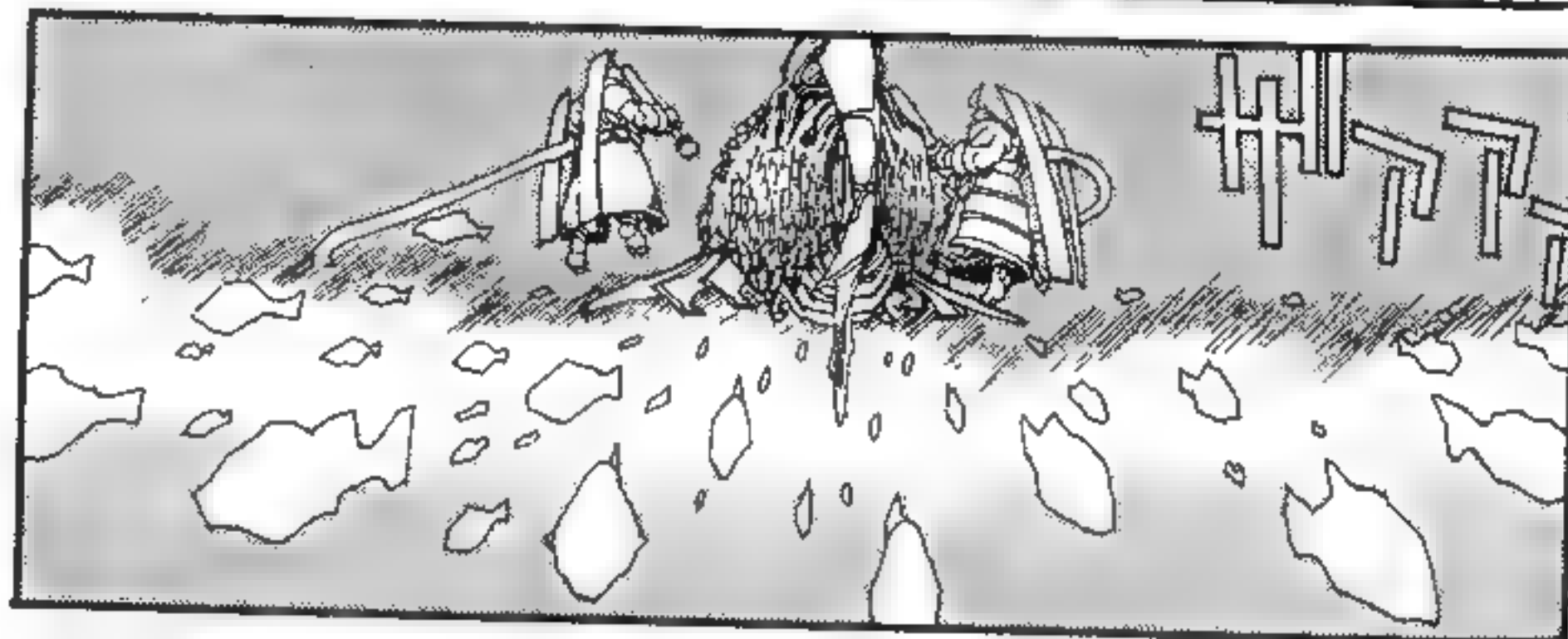
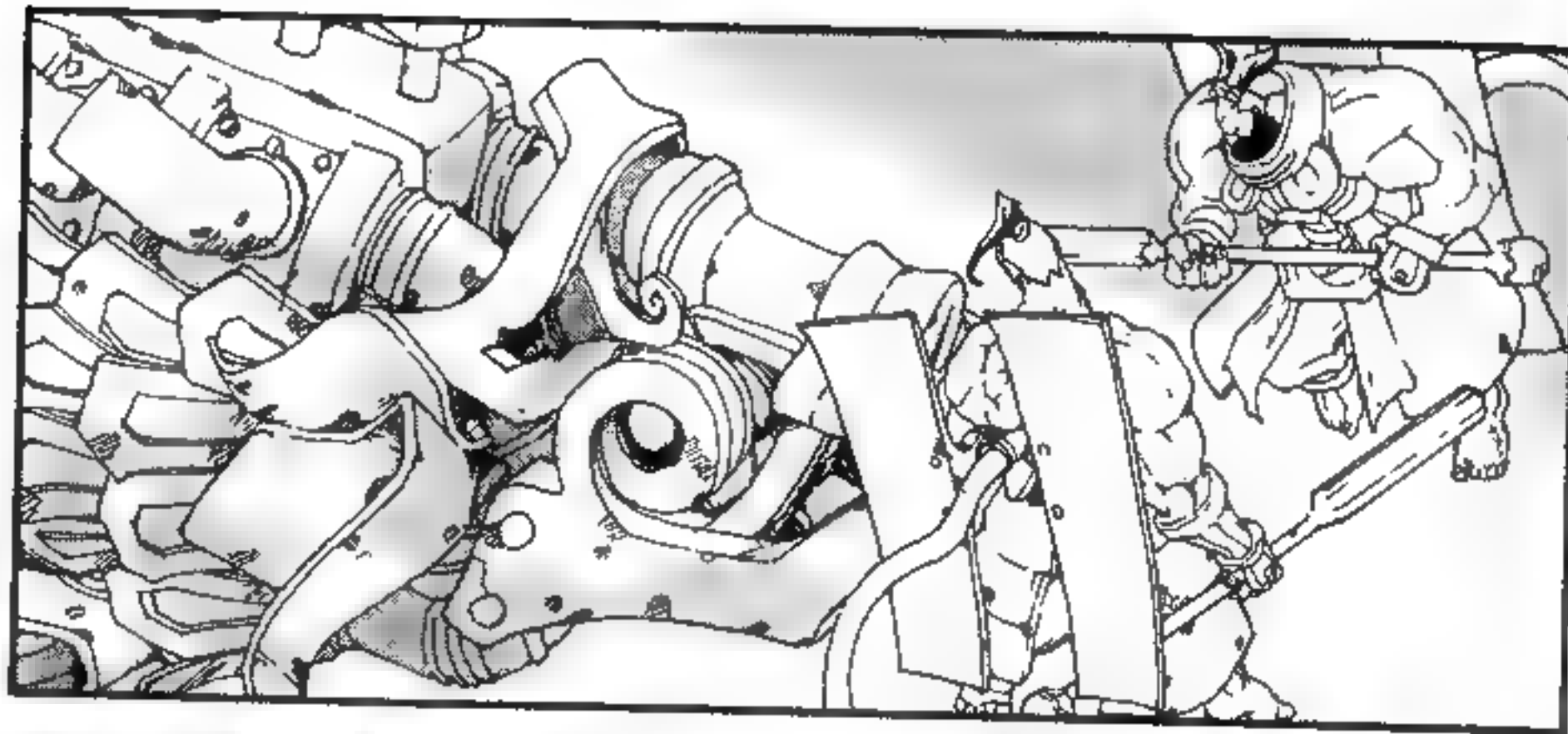


GIT YER GRUBBY
PAWS OFF MY
DAUGHTER!!!









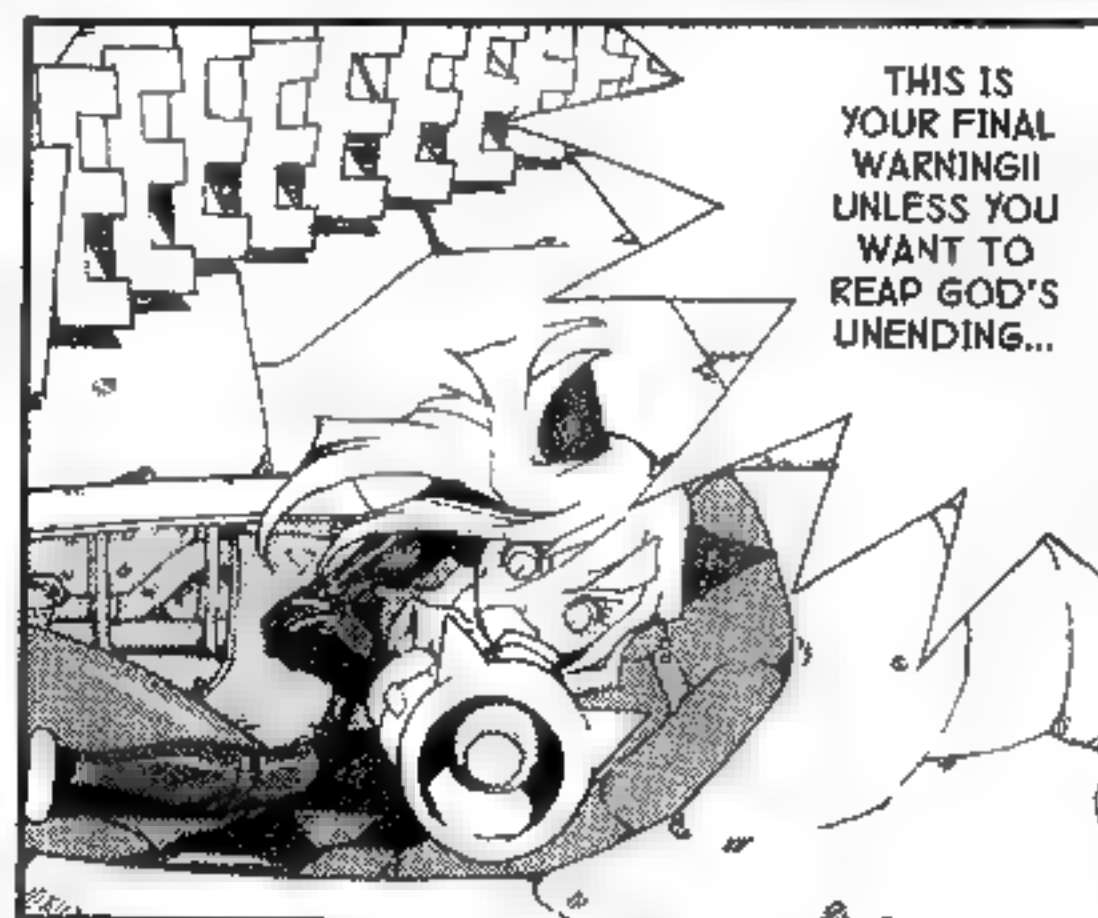


MORE LIKE A
PREYING CAT.

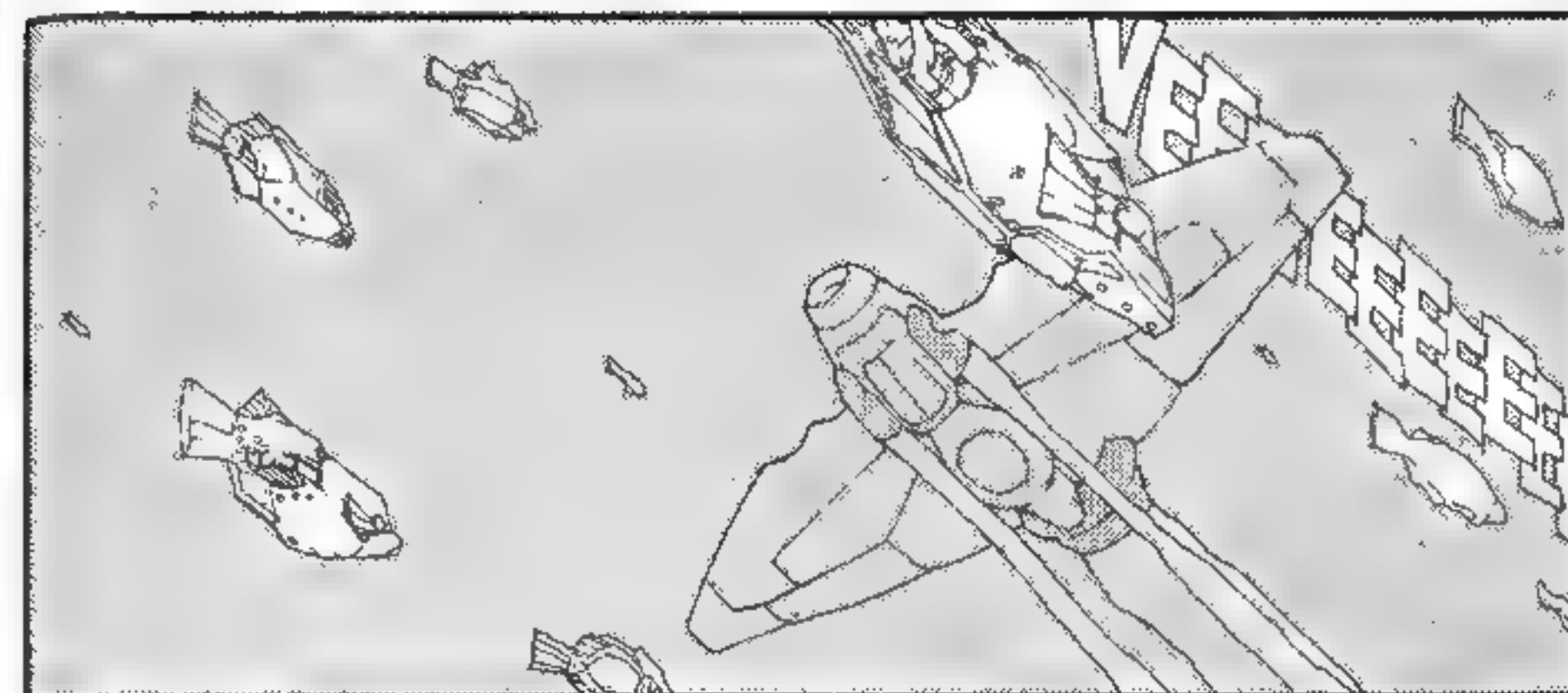
Can't she see I'm
busy here?!



...ULP...



THIS IS
YOUR FINAL
WARNING!!
UNLESS YOU
WANT TO
REAP GOD'S
UNENDING...

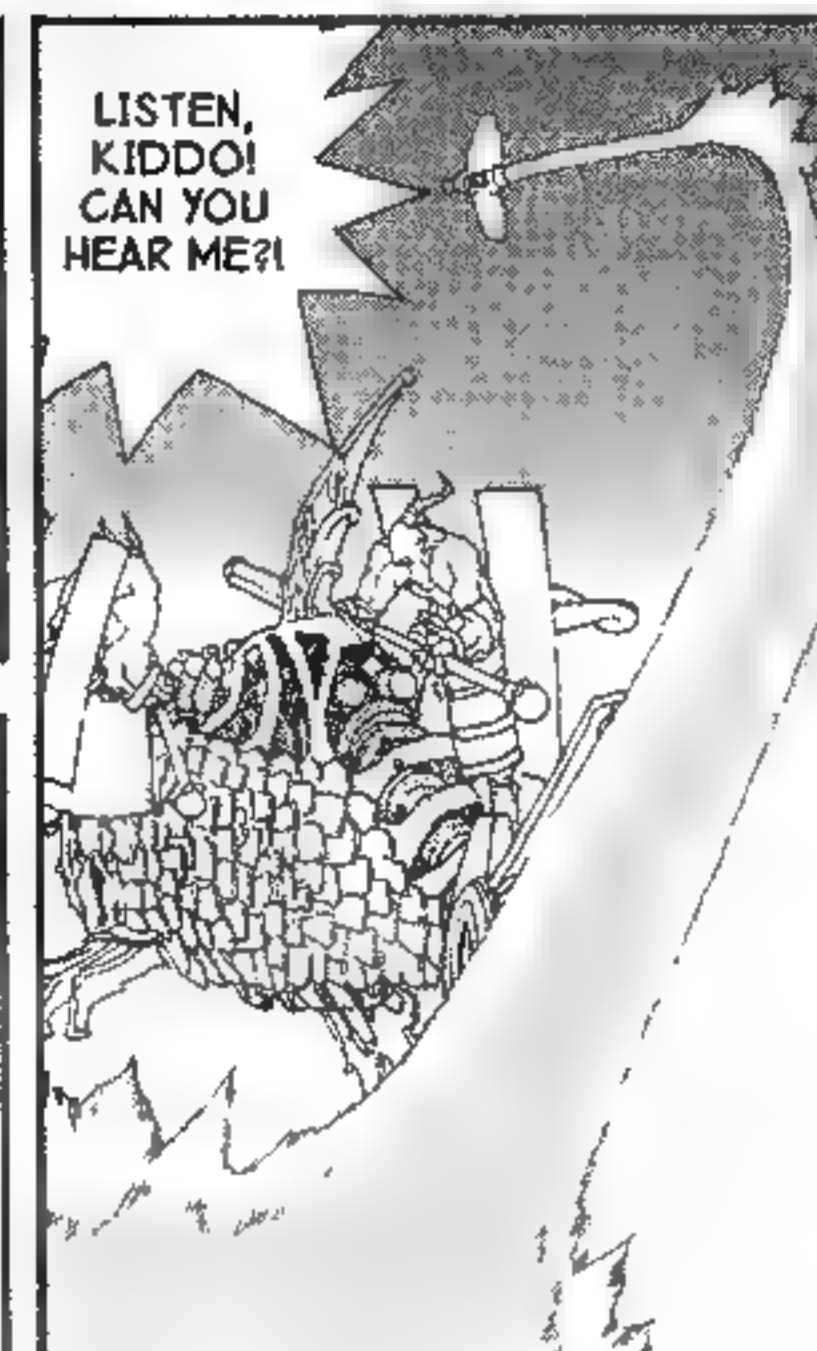


BUT
WHAT...
WHAT'S IT
DOING?!

IT...
IT'S...THE
FISH!!!



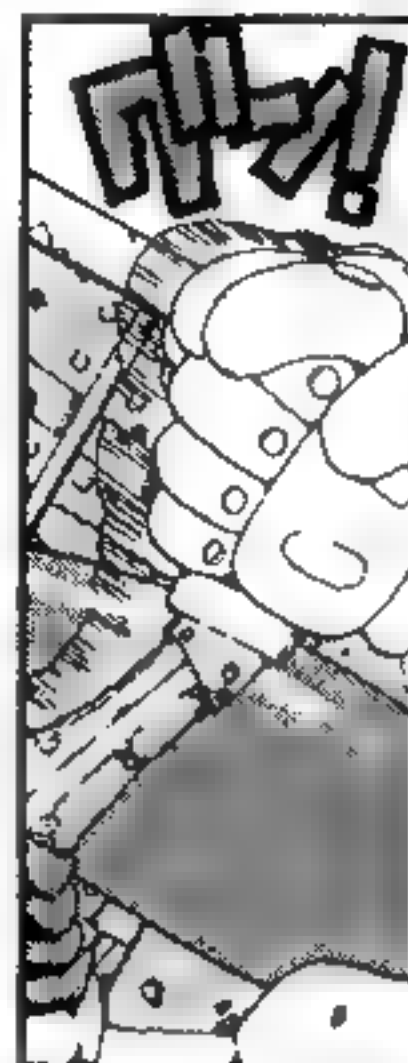
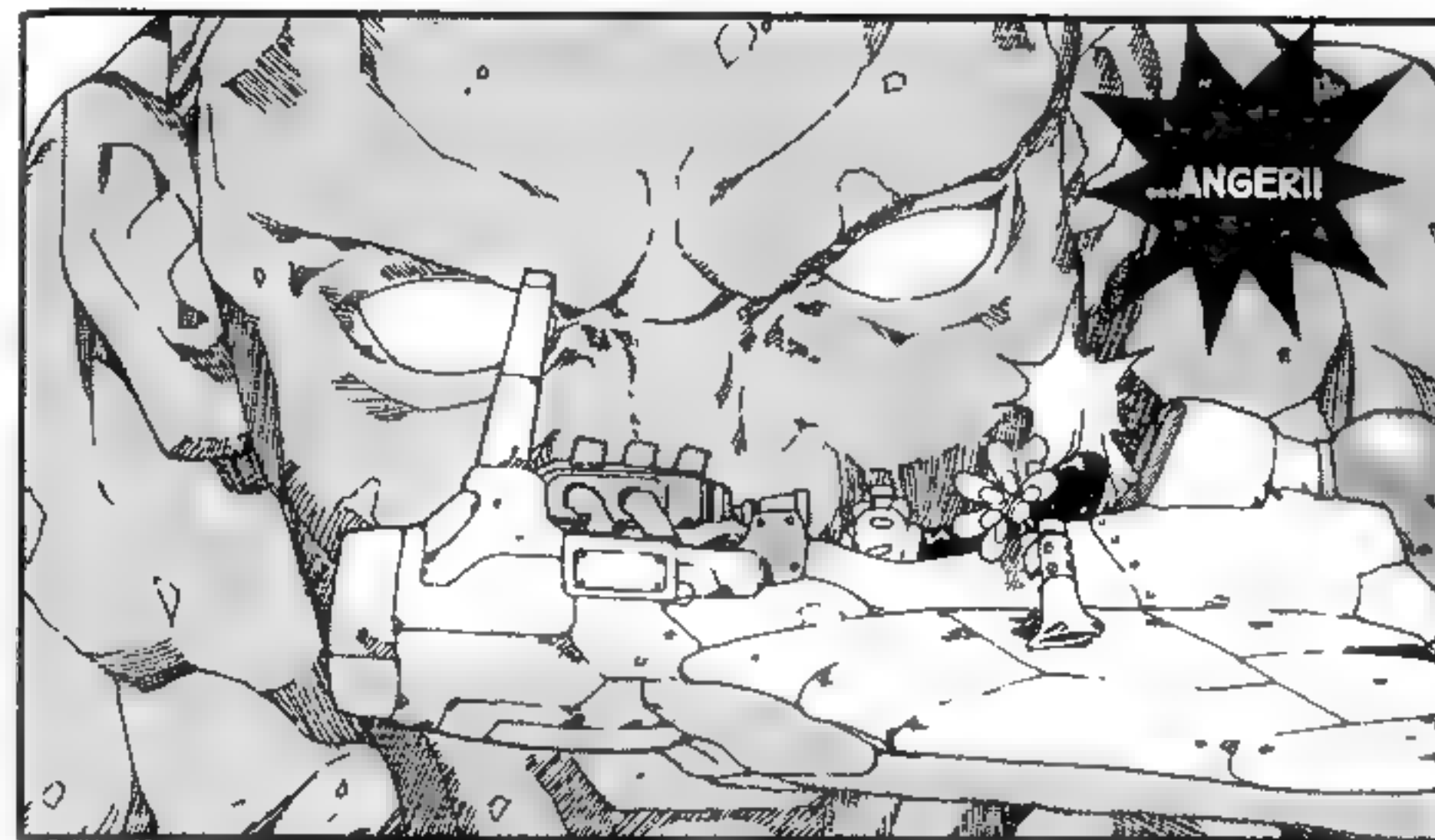
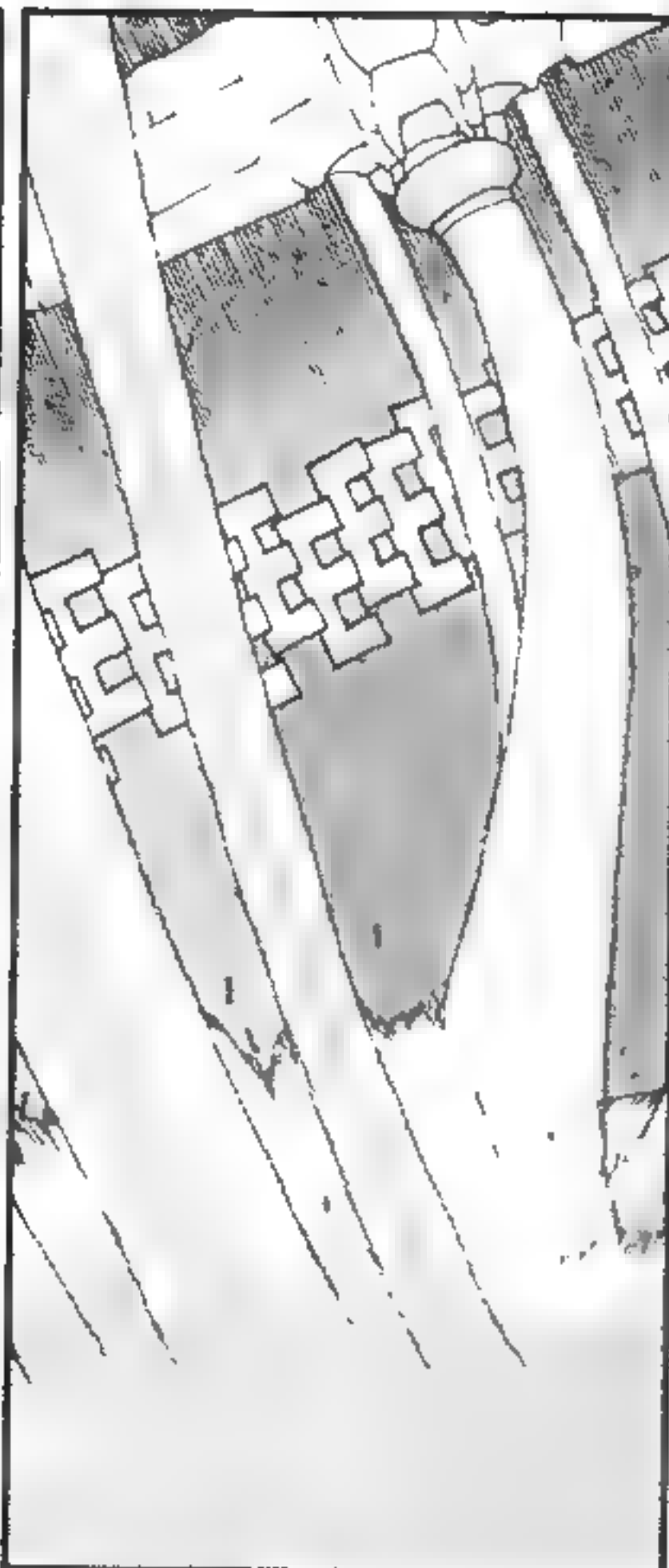
SURRENDER
THE FISH
OR FACE
GOD'S
WRATH! I
REPEAT...

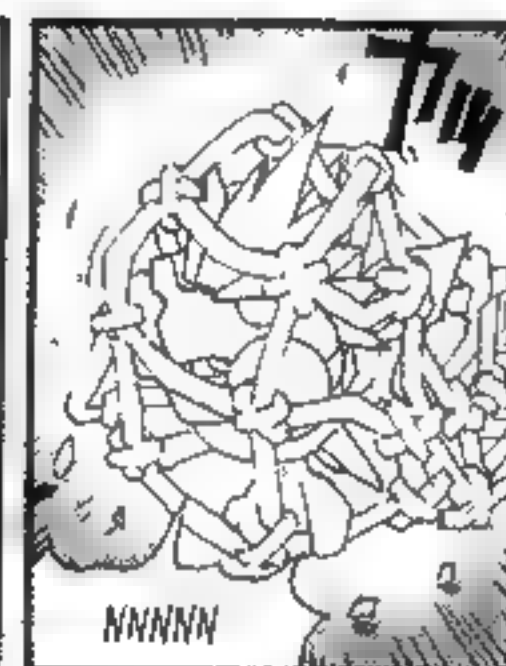
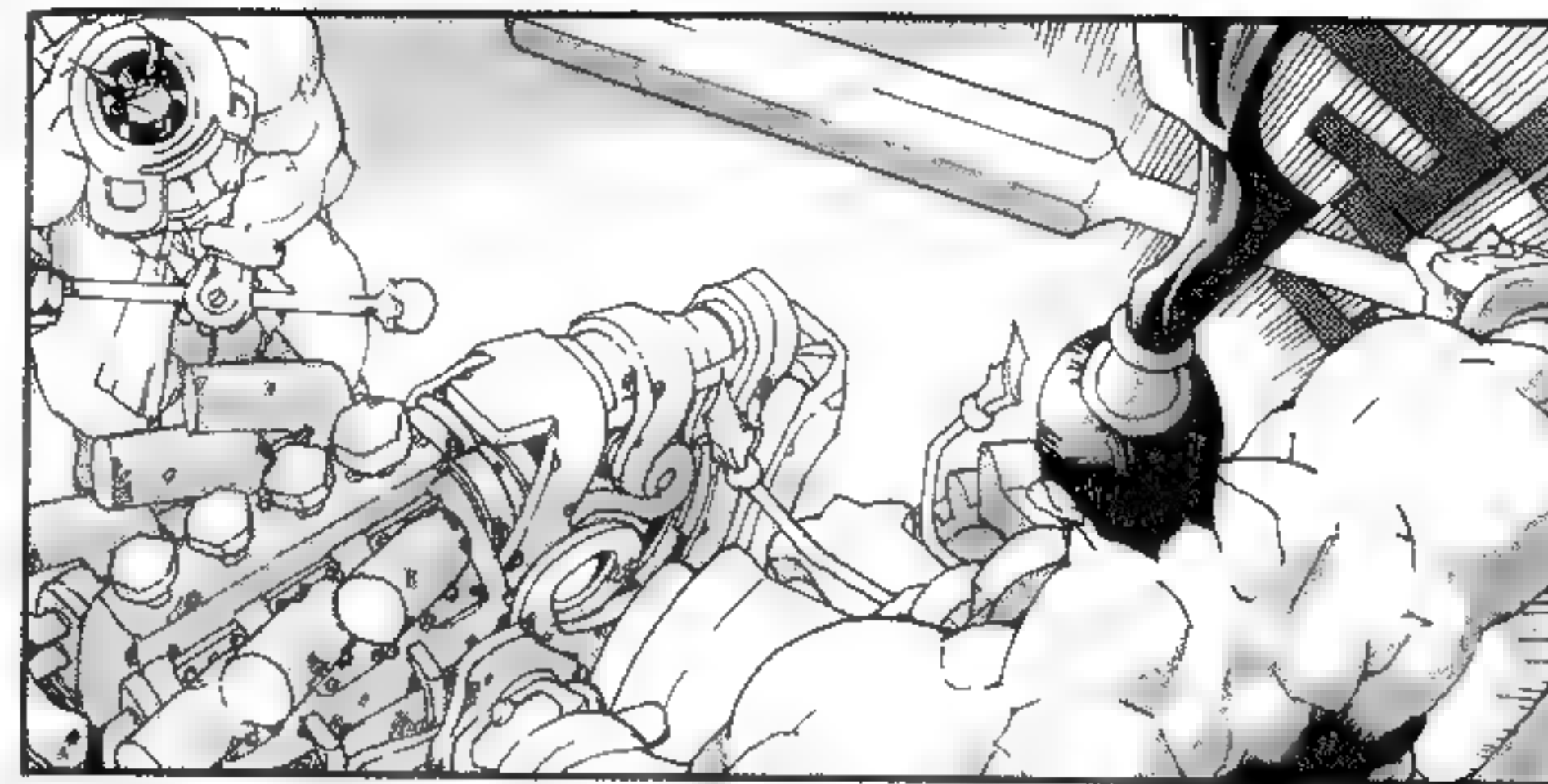
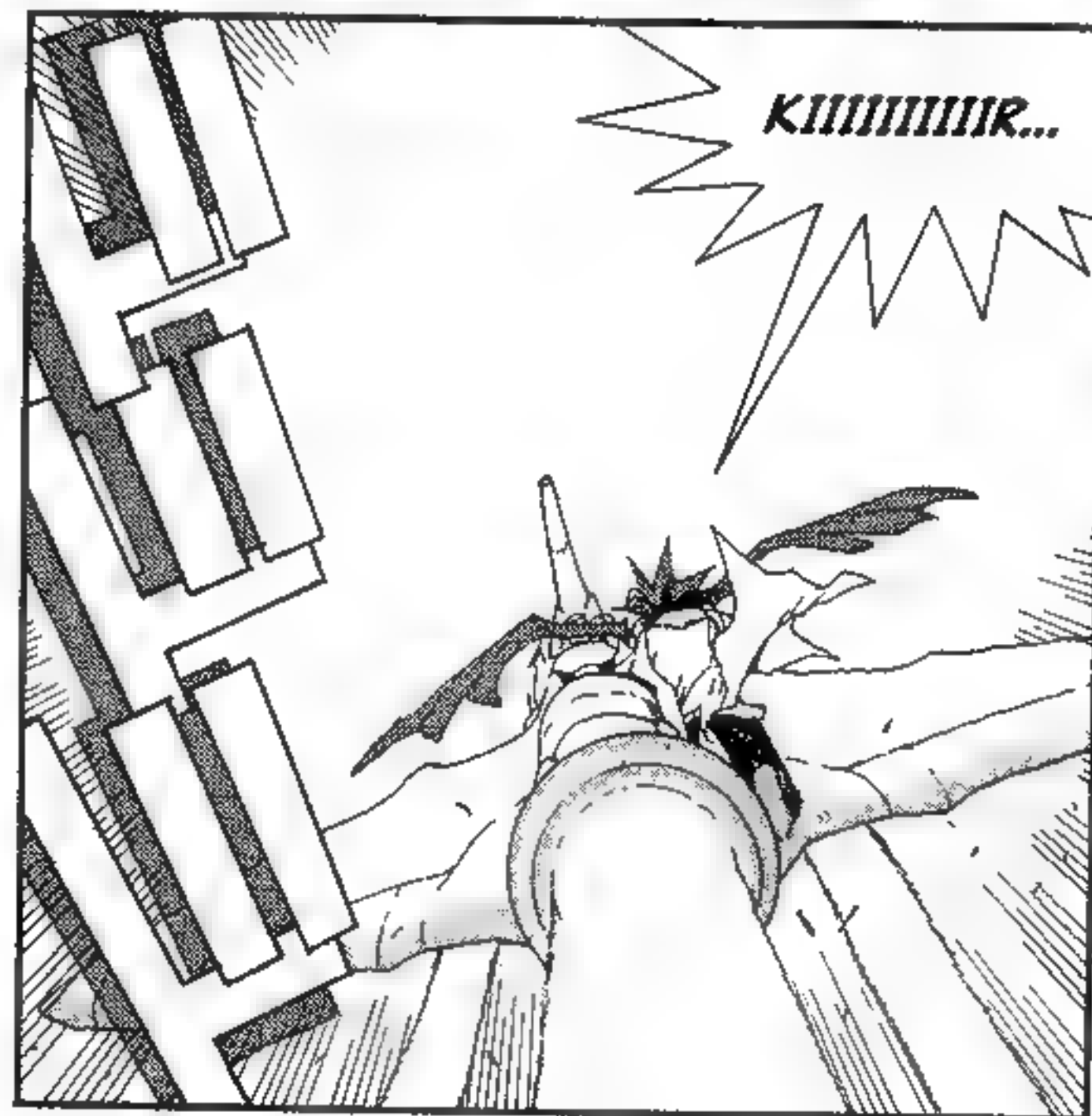
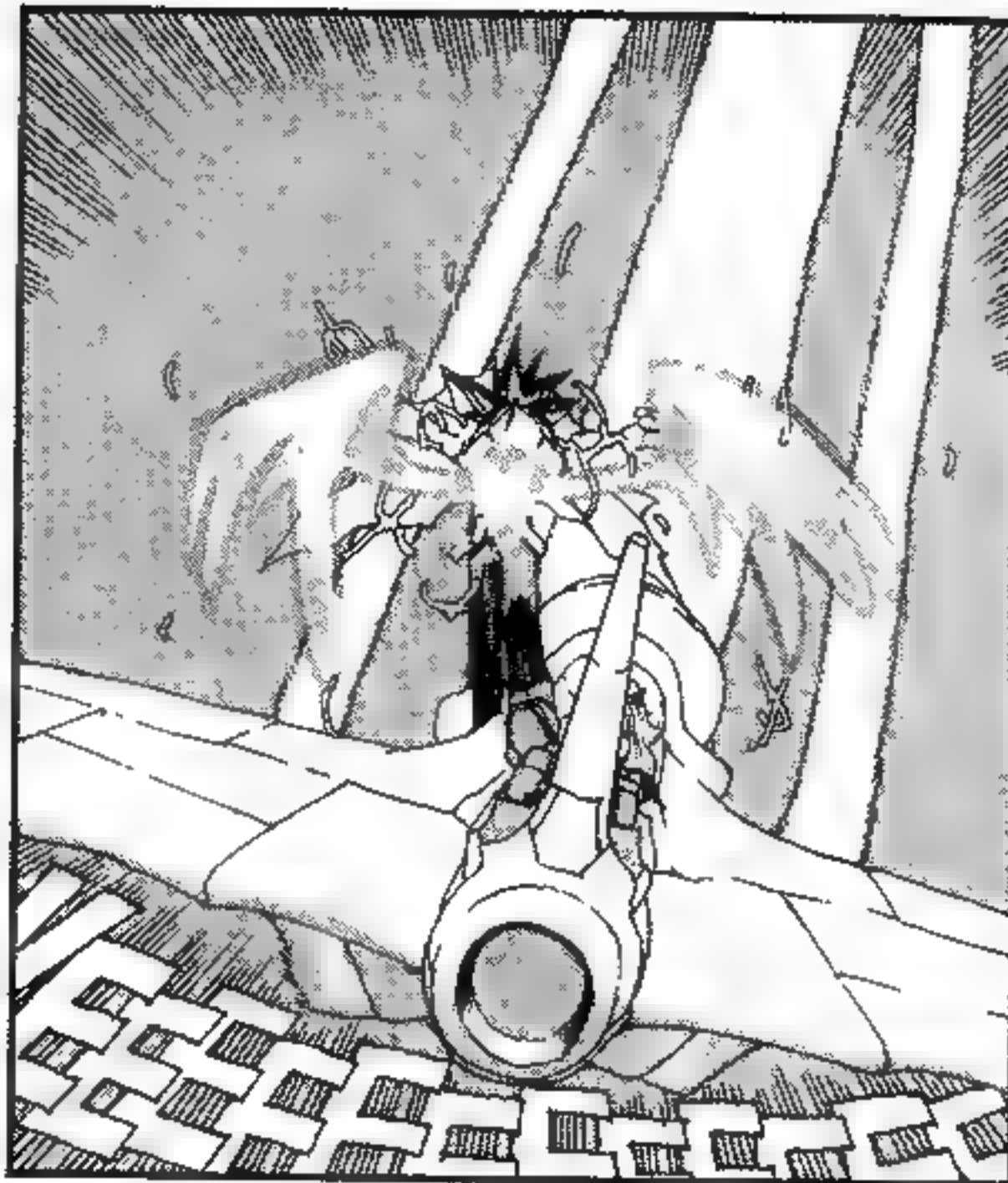


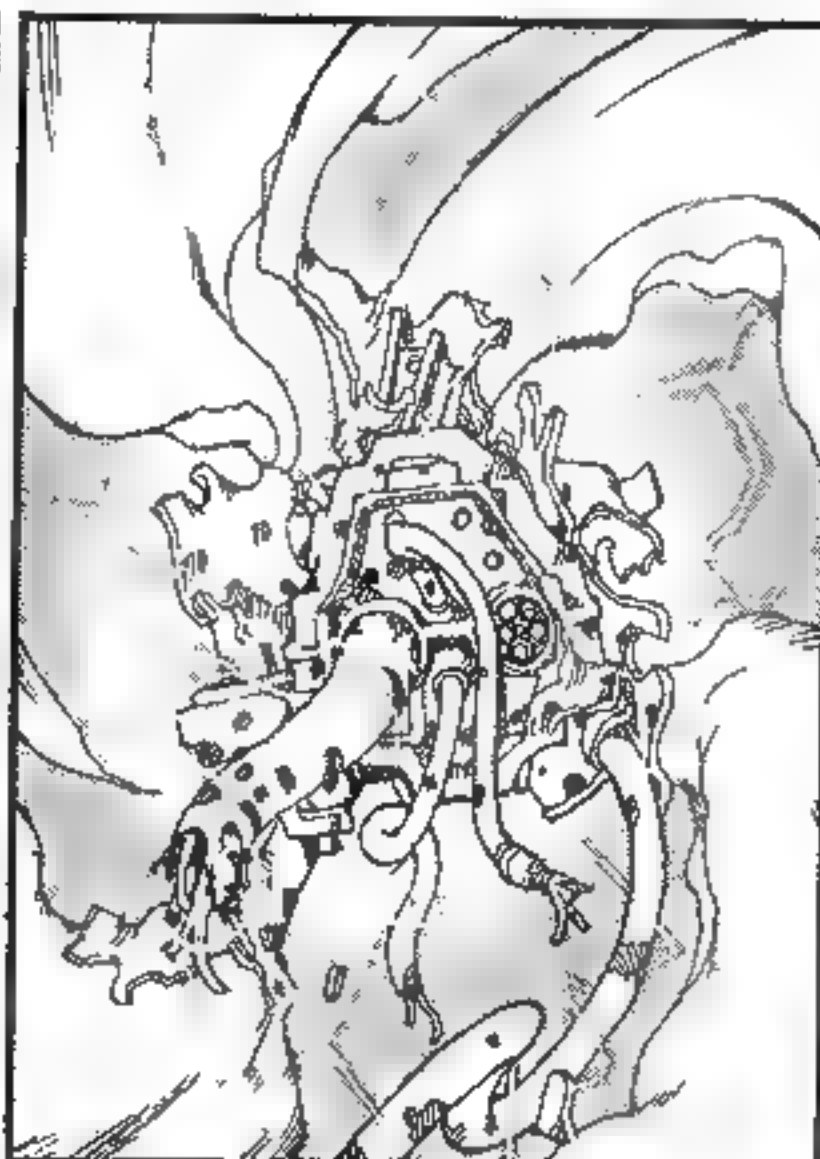
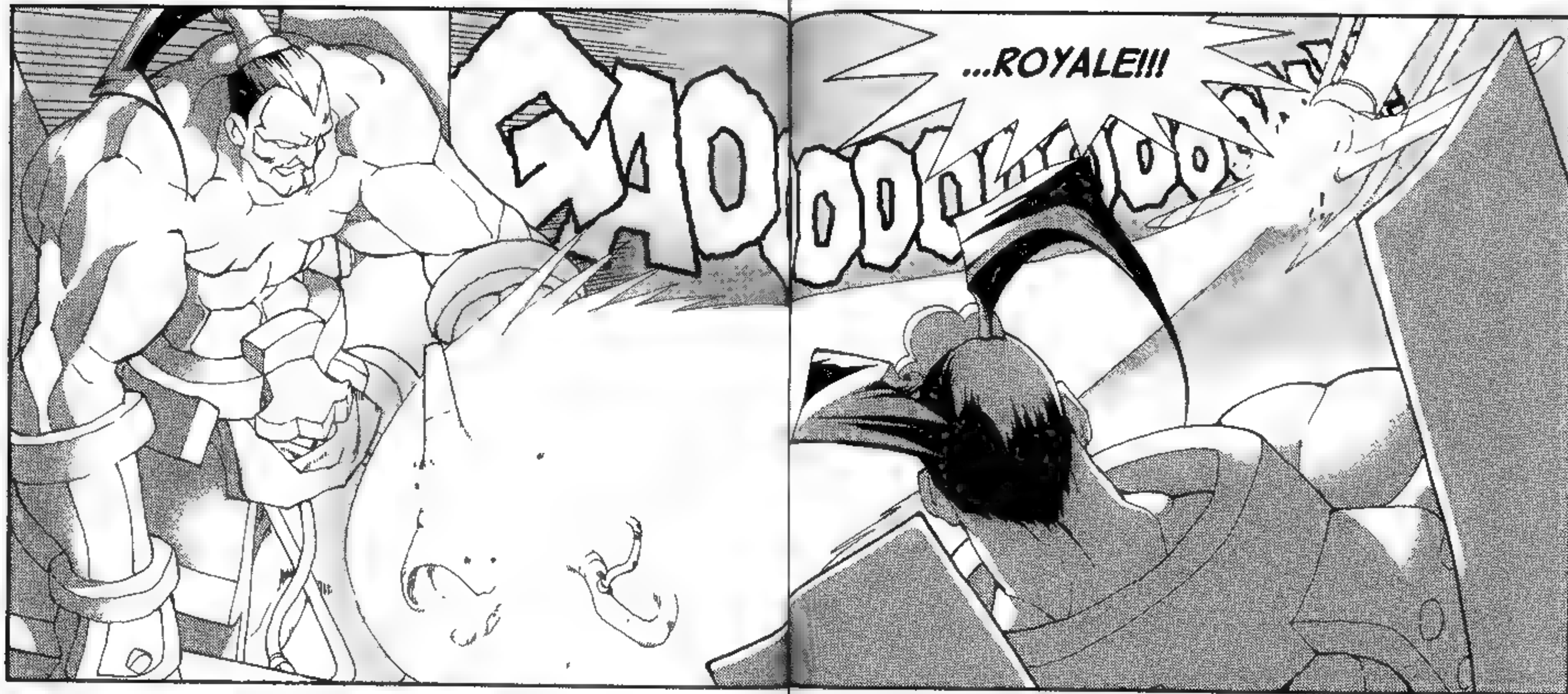
LISTEN,
KIDDO!
CAN YOU
HEAR ME?!



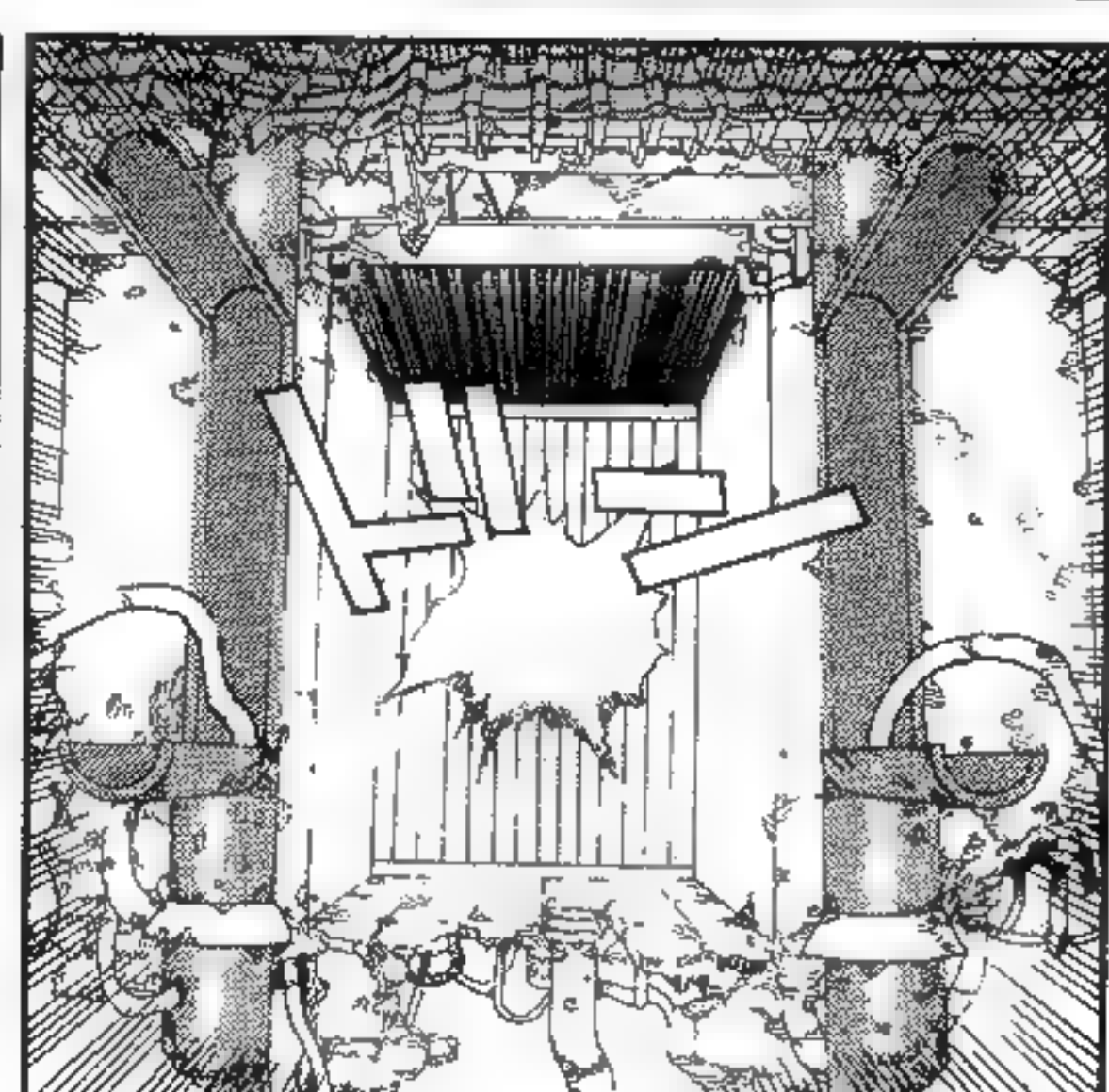
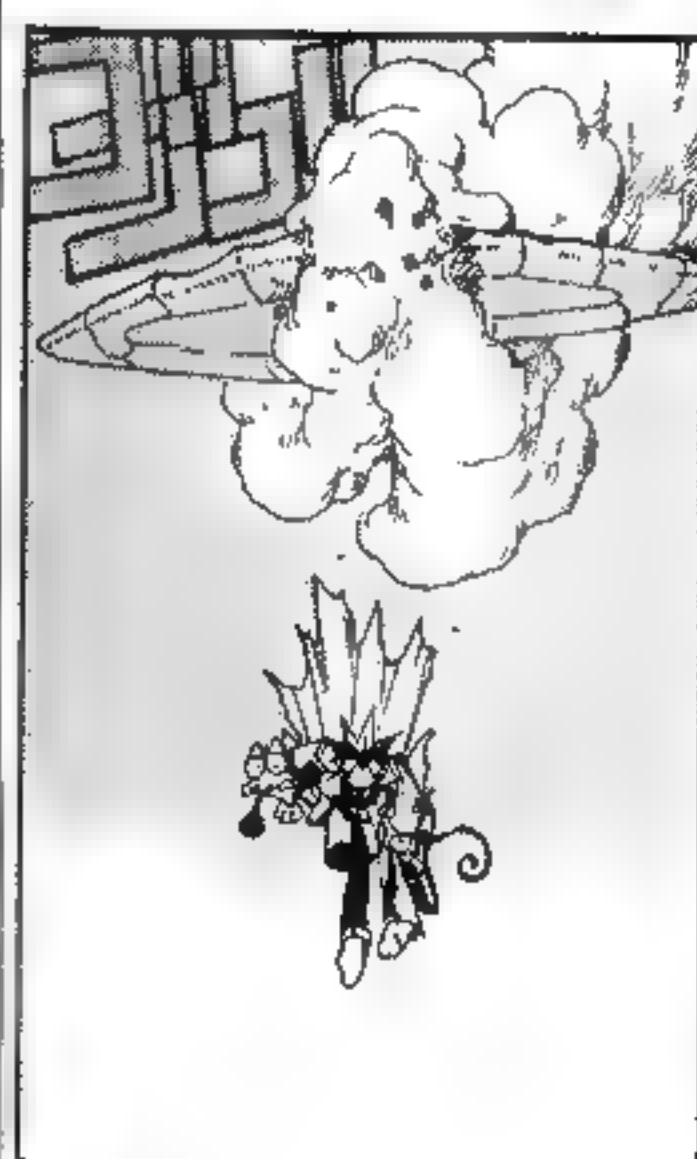
DDH! A BEAUTIFUL
VOICE ECHOS FROM
THE HEAVENS. A HEAVENLY
HOST HAS COME TO
CLAIM ME JING!

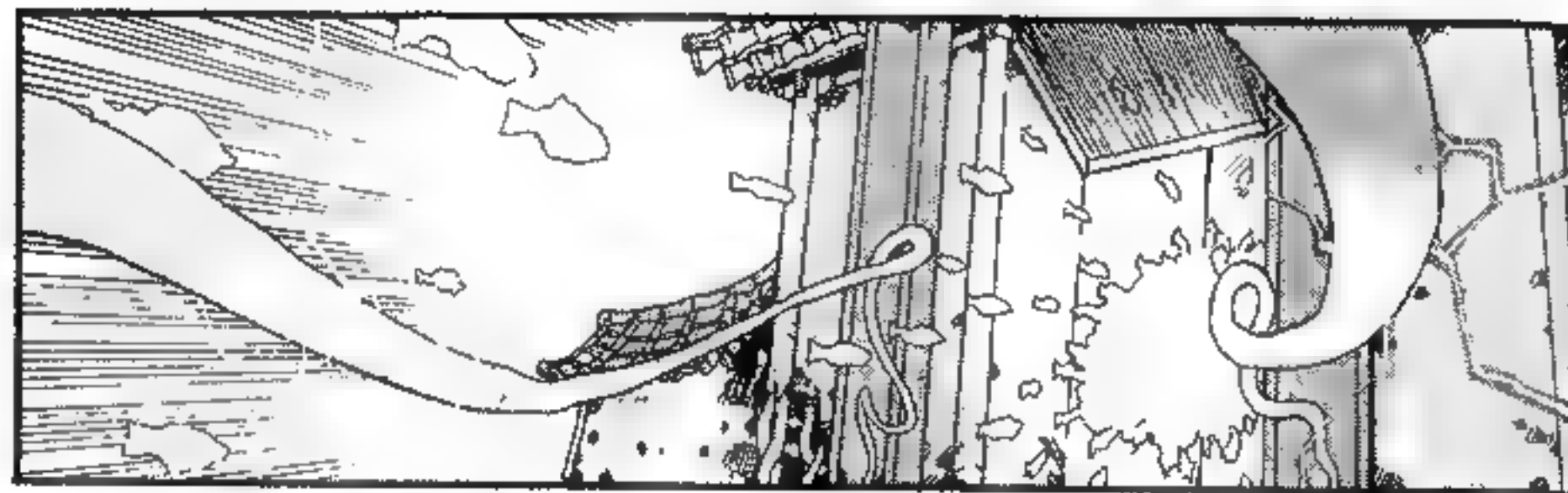




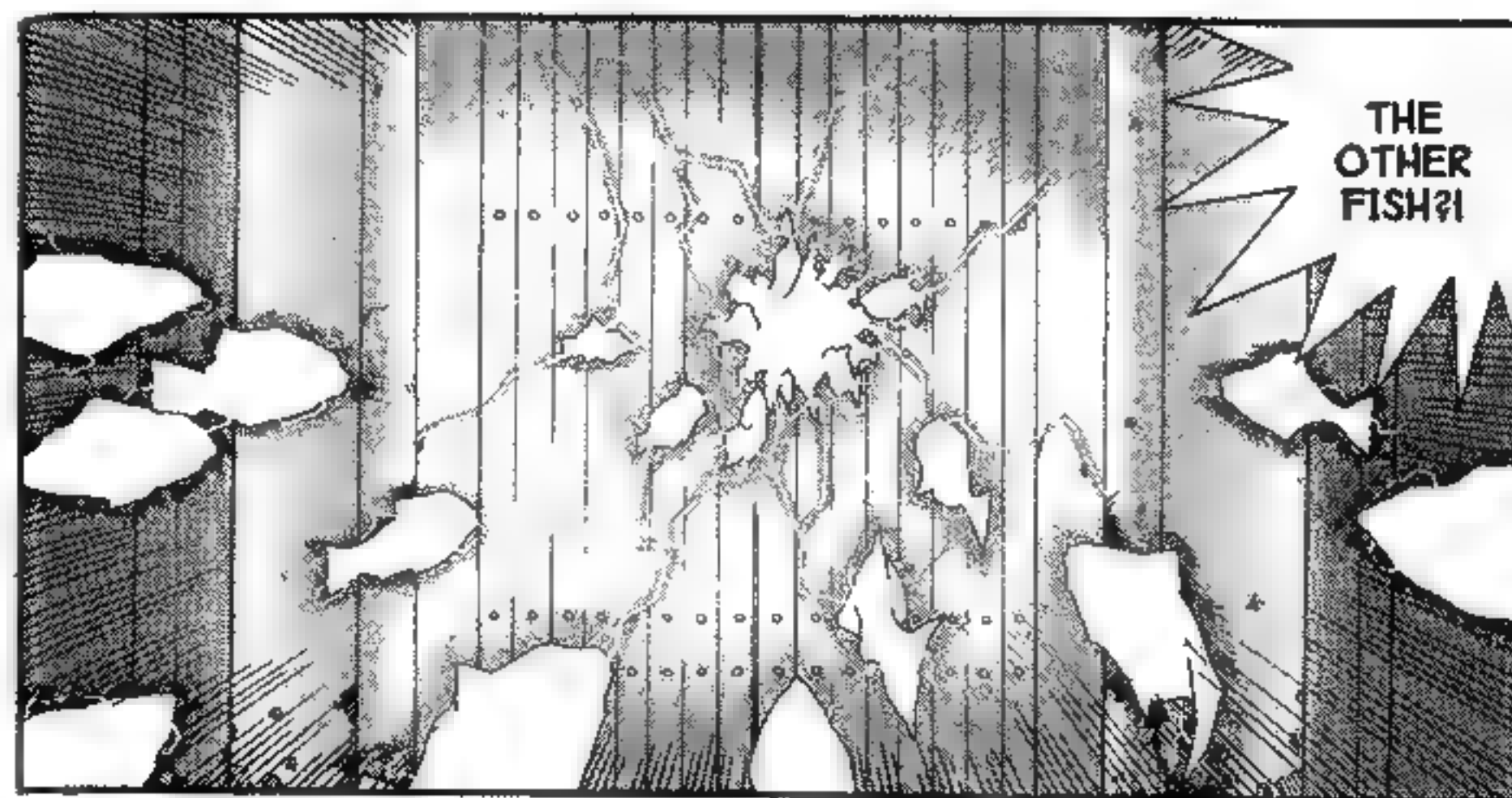
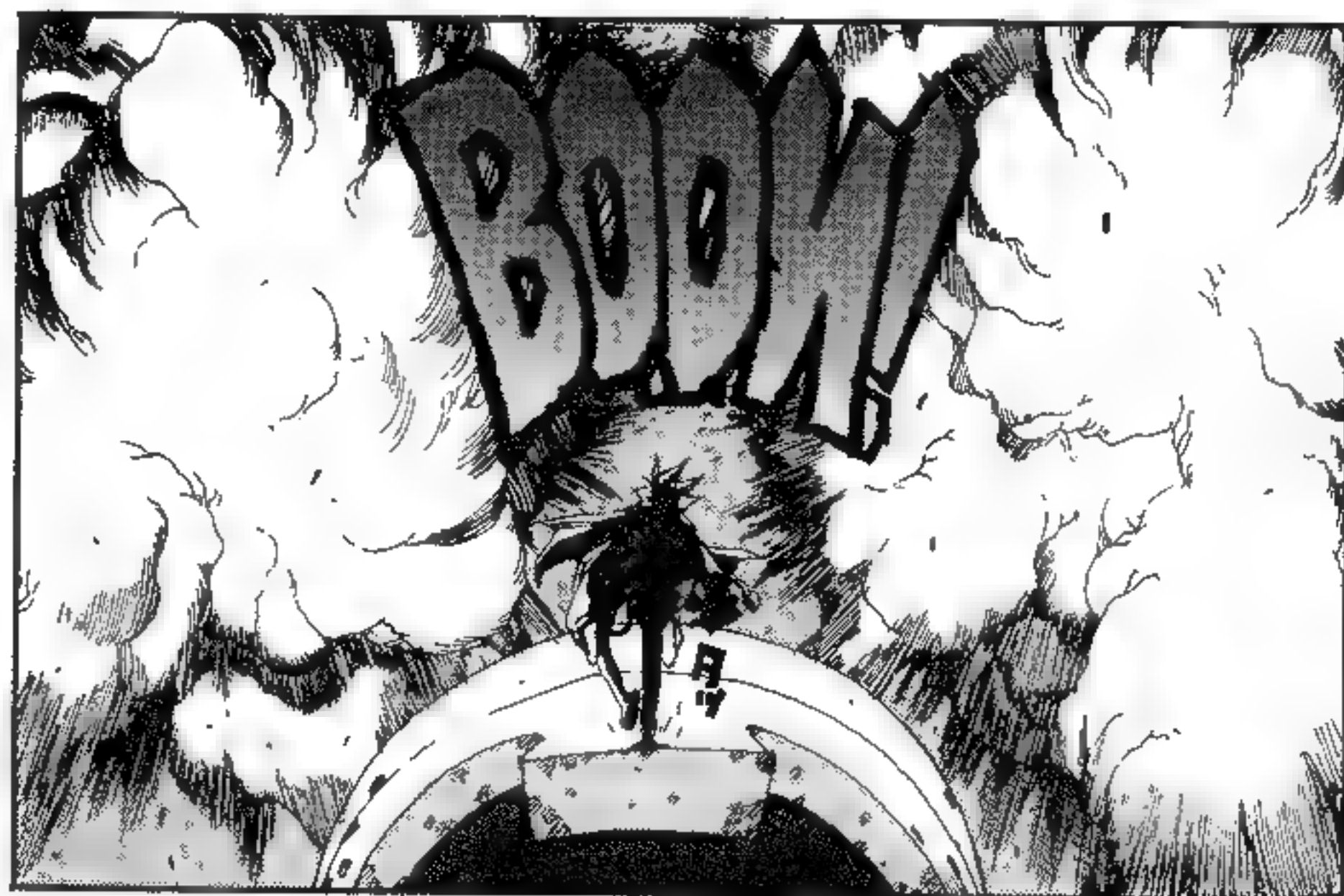


WAIT--WHAT
ARE YOU--?!!

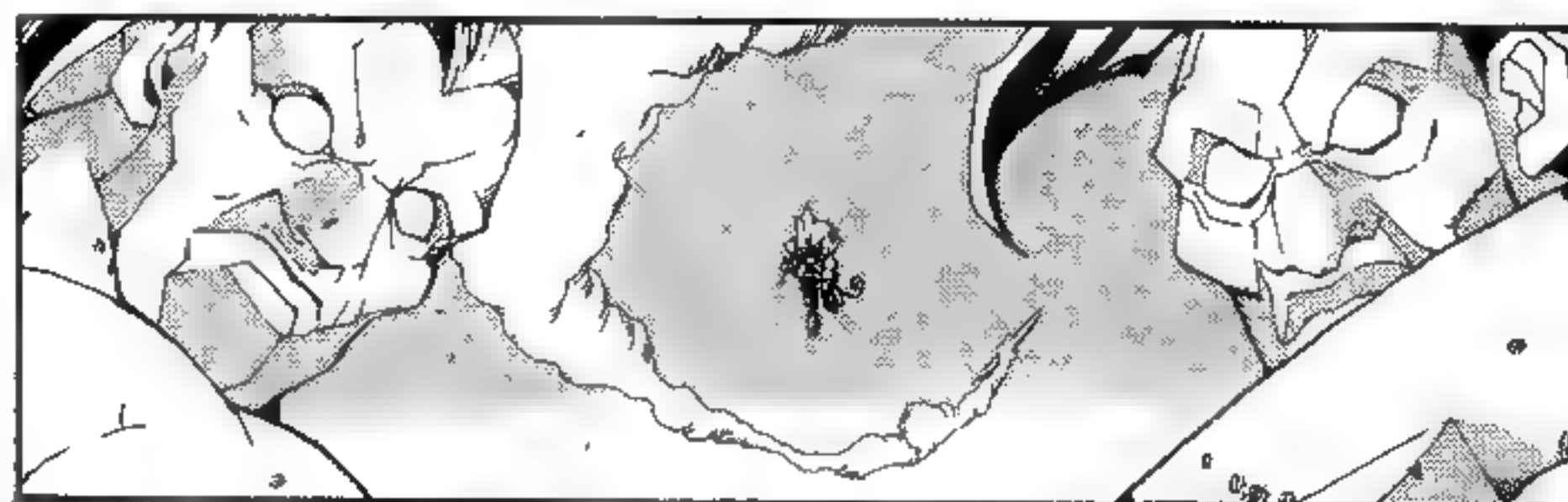




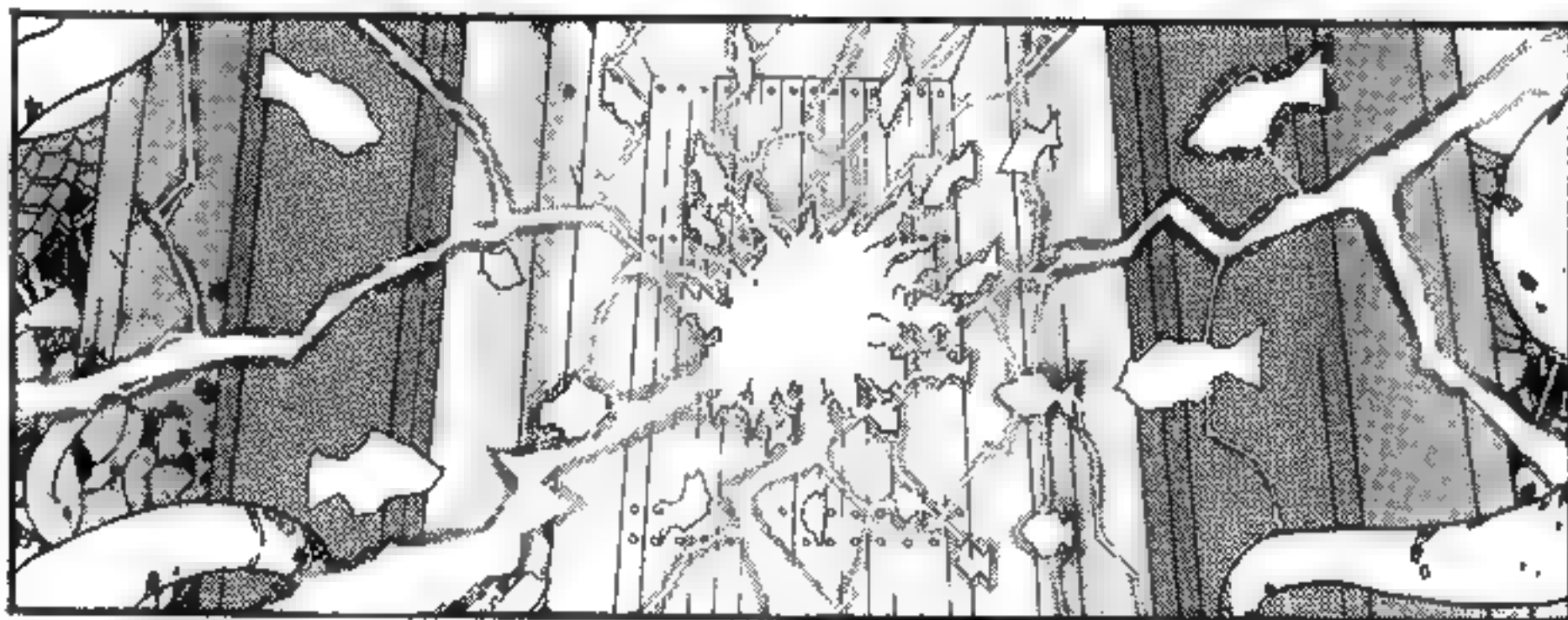
GWAH!!

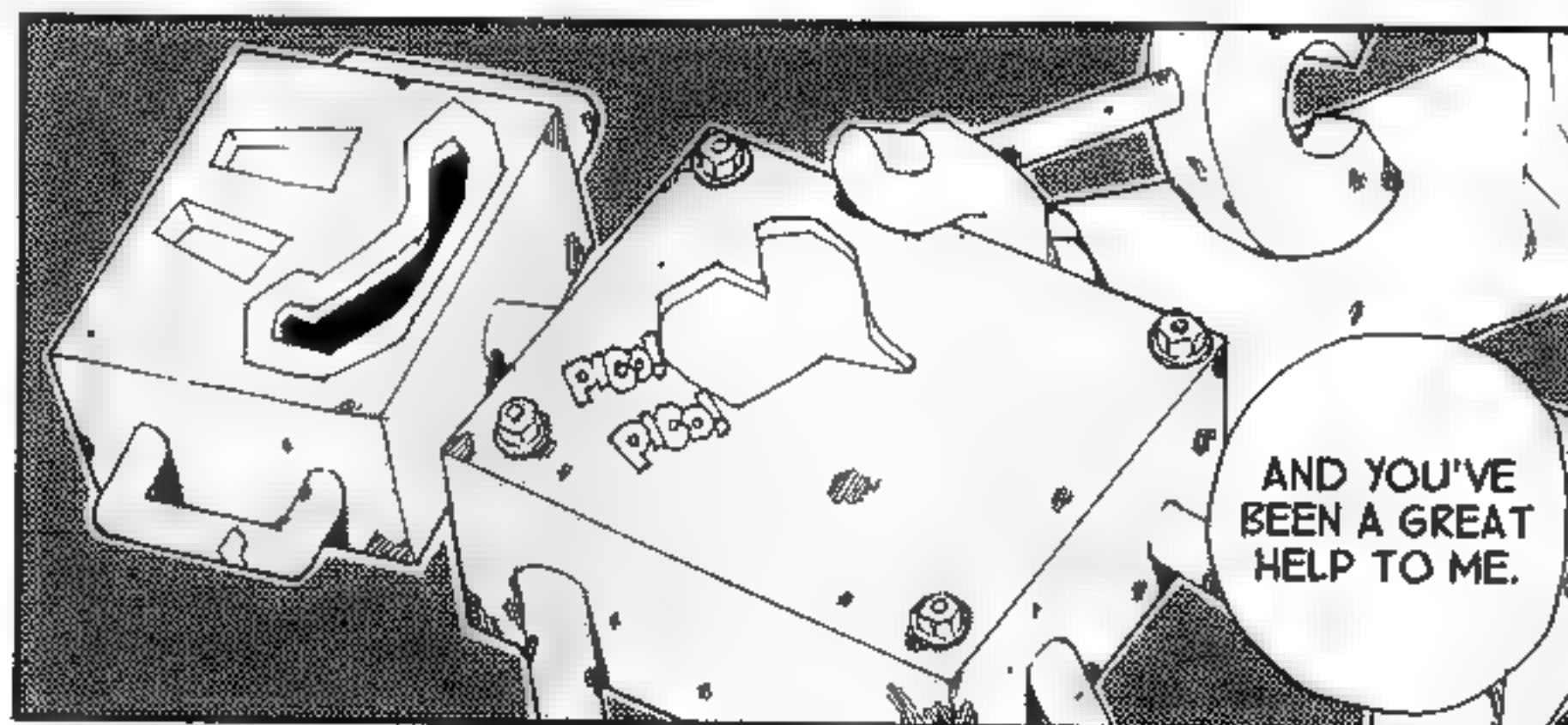


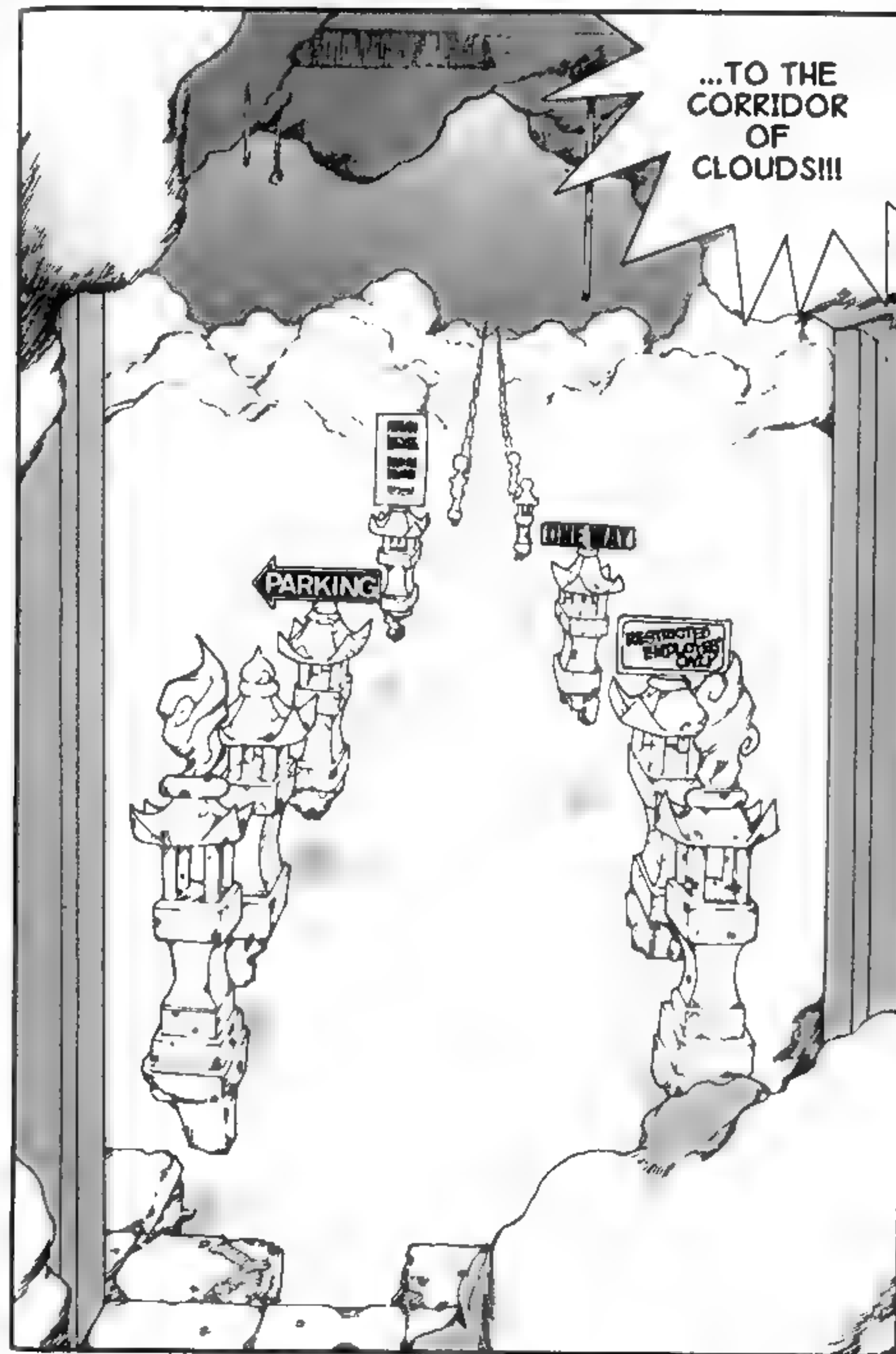
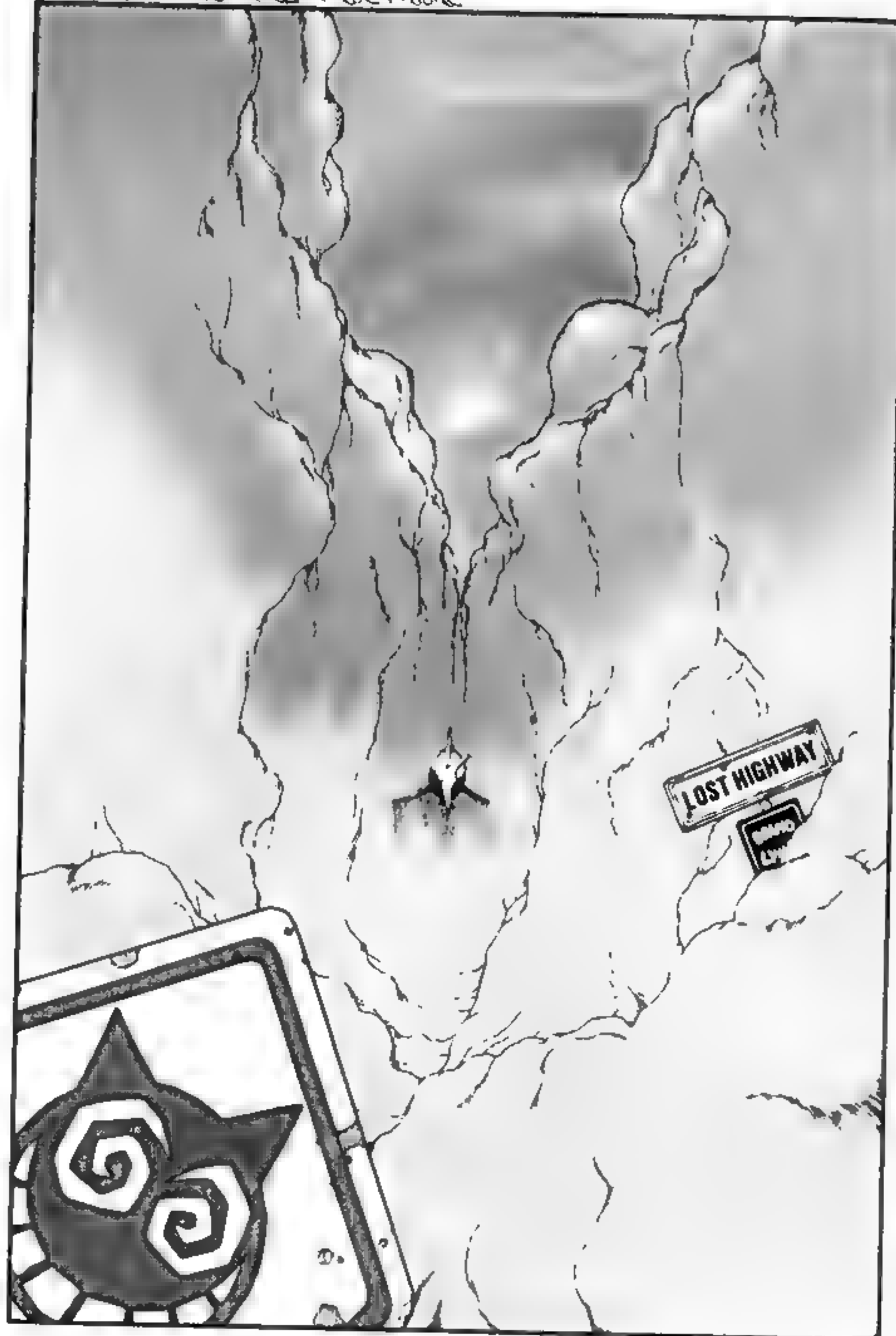
THE
OTHER
FISH?!



THEY DO
LOVE THEIR
ELECTRICITY...AND
WE AIM TO
PLEASE!!









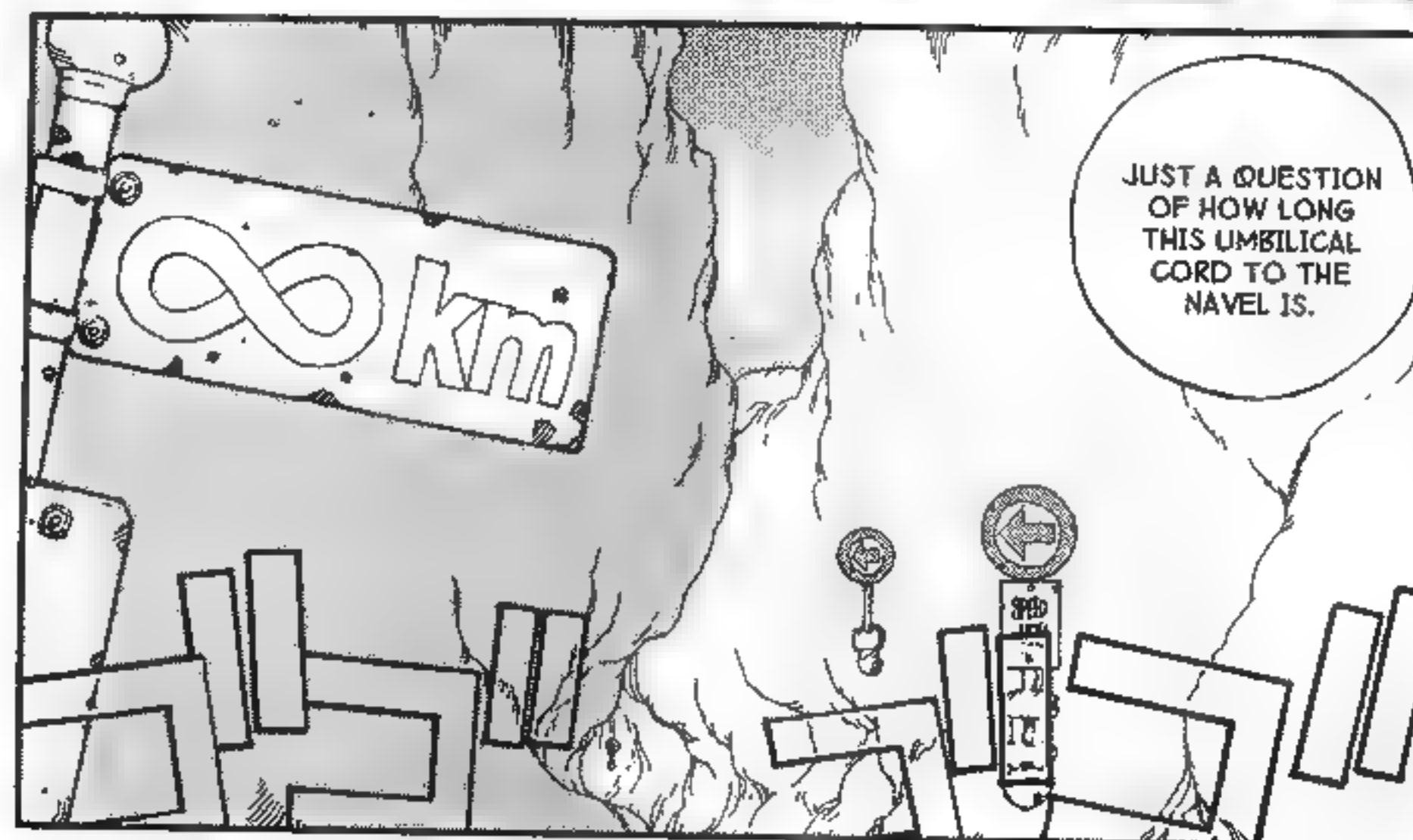
I KNOW...BUT
IT SHOULDN'T
BE LONG NOW.



AT THIS POINT I DON'T THINK
I'LL BELIEVE WE'RE THERE
EVEN WHEN WE ARE!
Know what
I mean?



HMMMMM THIS THE
SAME CORRIDOR
OF CLOUDS ON
THE MAP?



JUST A QUESTION
OF HOW LONG
THIS UMBILICAL
CORD TO THE
NAVAL IS.



IT'S SAID THAT
ALL LIFE CAME UP
FROM THE SEA.
AND OTHERS SAY
HUMANS USED TO
BE BIRDS...THAT WE
FLEW DOWN FROM
THE SKY.

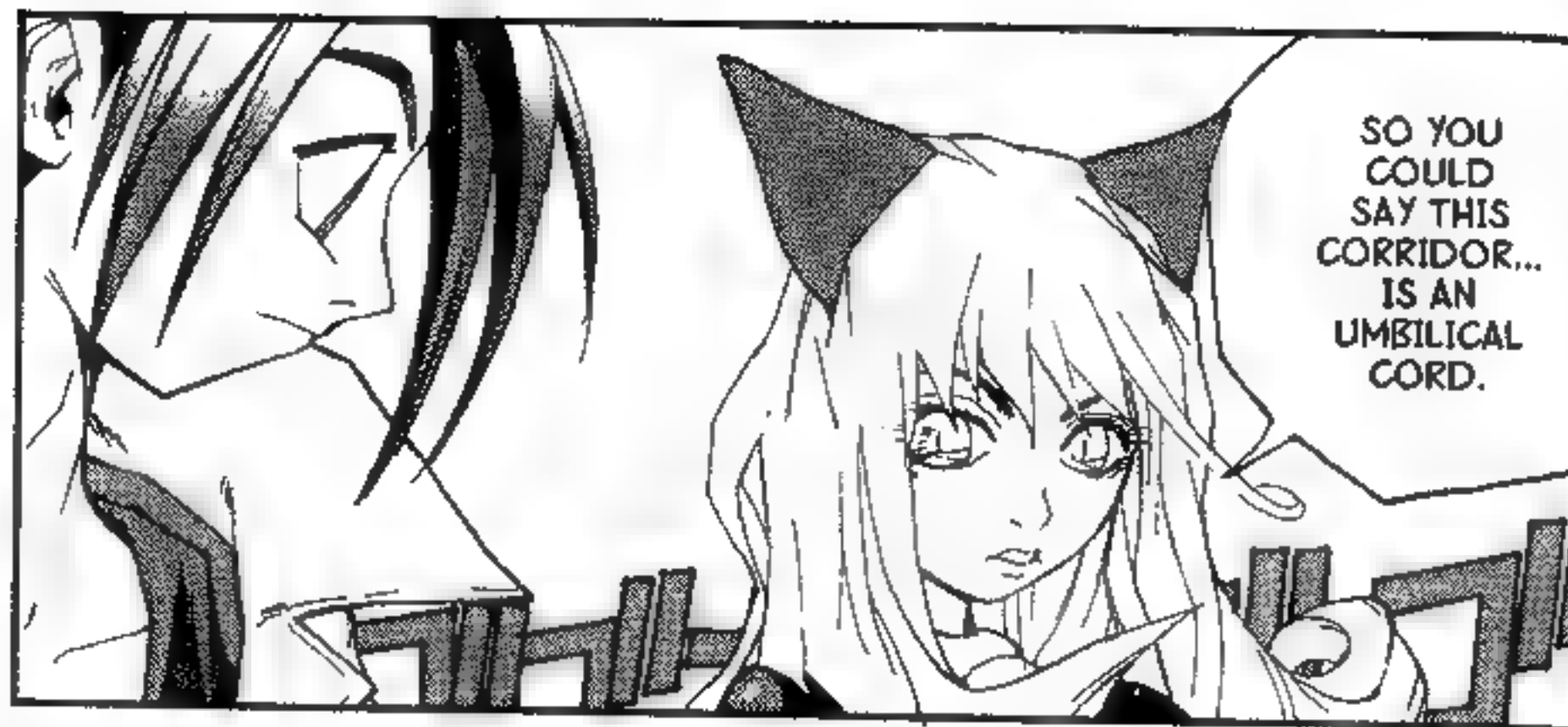


THAT'S
RIGHT...THE
CELESTIAL SEA
IS THE MOTHER
OF US ALL.

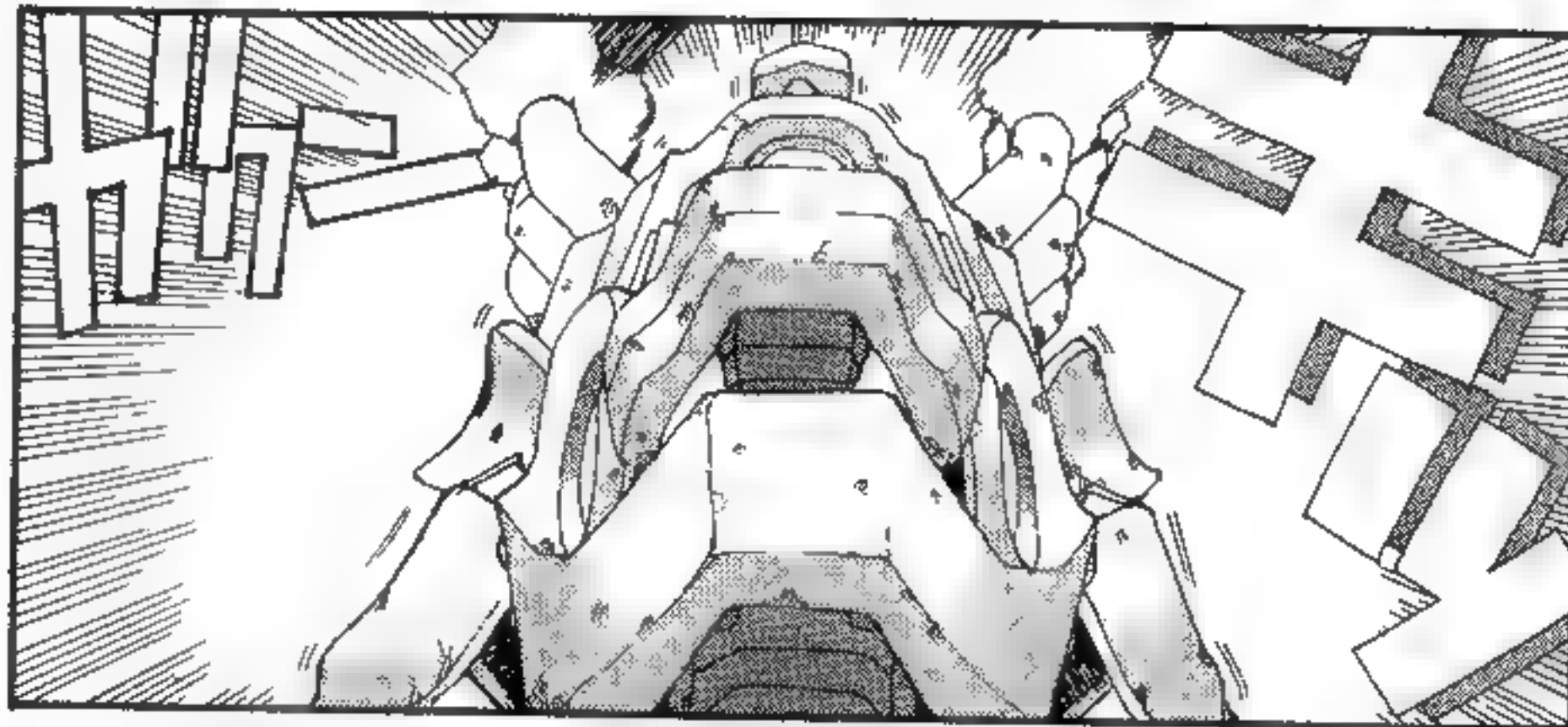


WILL WE GET
TO FUZZY NAVAL
SOON PLEASE?

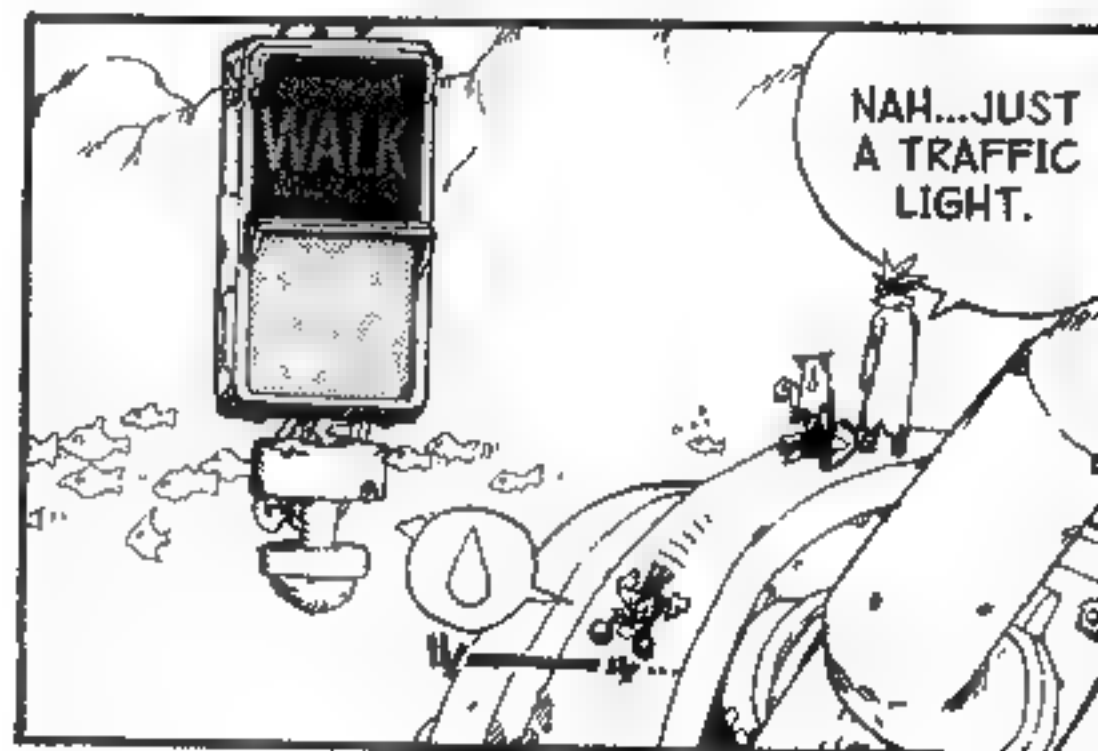




SO YOU
COULD
SAY THIS
CORRIDOR...
IS AN
UMBILICAL
CORD.



DDH! DOES THAT MEAN
WE'RE HERE? AT LAST?
MOMMY?



NAH...JUST
A TRAFFIC
LIGHT.



W-WE'VE
STOPPED!!

WHAT?!!!



AND THANKS TO THOSE
THEORIES, WE GET FISHES
SWIMMING IN THE SKY?

*Downright
misleading, if
you ask me!!*



THOSE BELIEFS
ARE SUPPOSED TO
REASSURE US...TO TELL
US NO MATTER HOW
DISTANT THE SKY...NO
MATTER HOW FAR BEYOND
THE HORIZON...THERE IS
ALWAYS AN END. THERE'S
ALWAYS AN ANSWER. BUT
THOSE THEORIES ARE
UNCERTAIN FOR A REASON.



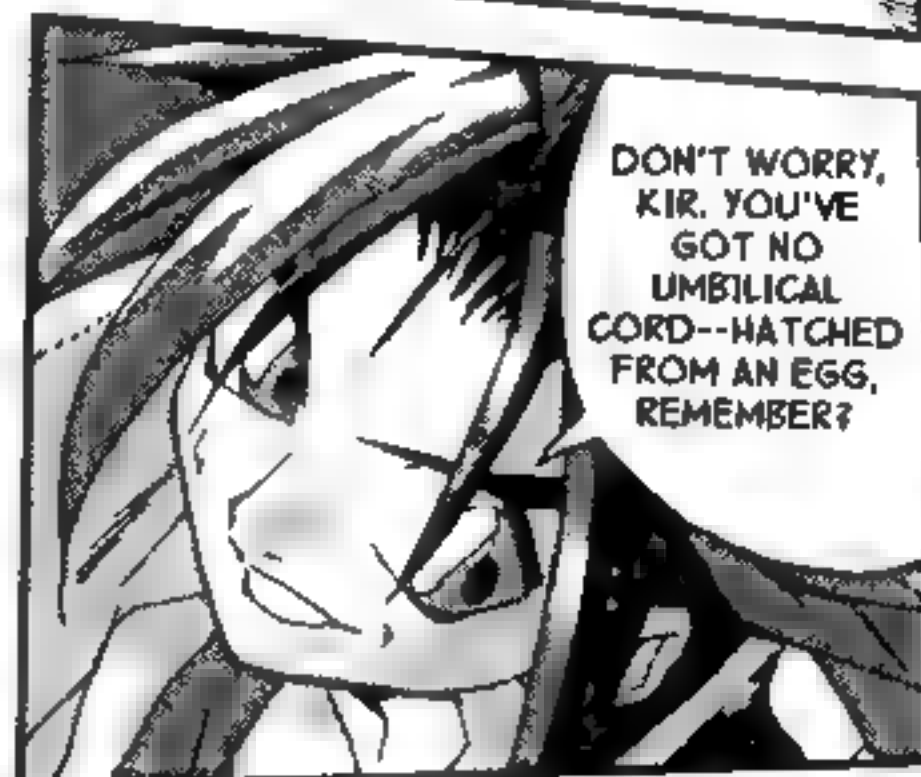
BUT THE
CELESTIAL SEA
SUPPORTS BOTH
THEORIES.



...BUT NO MATTER
WHAT YOU CALL IT,
IT IS THE MOTHER
OF US ALL--THOSE
WHO WALK THE
EARTH...AND THOSE
WHO TRAVEL THE
SEA.



SOME CALL
FUZZY NAVEL
HEAVEN...
SOME CALL
IT LIMBO...

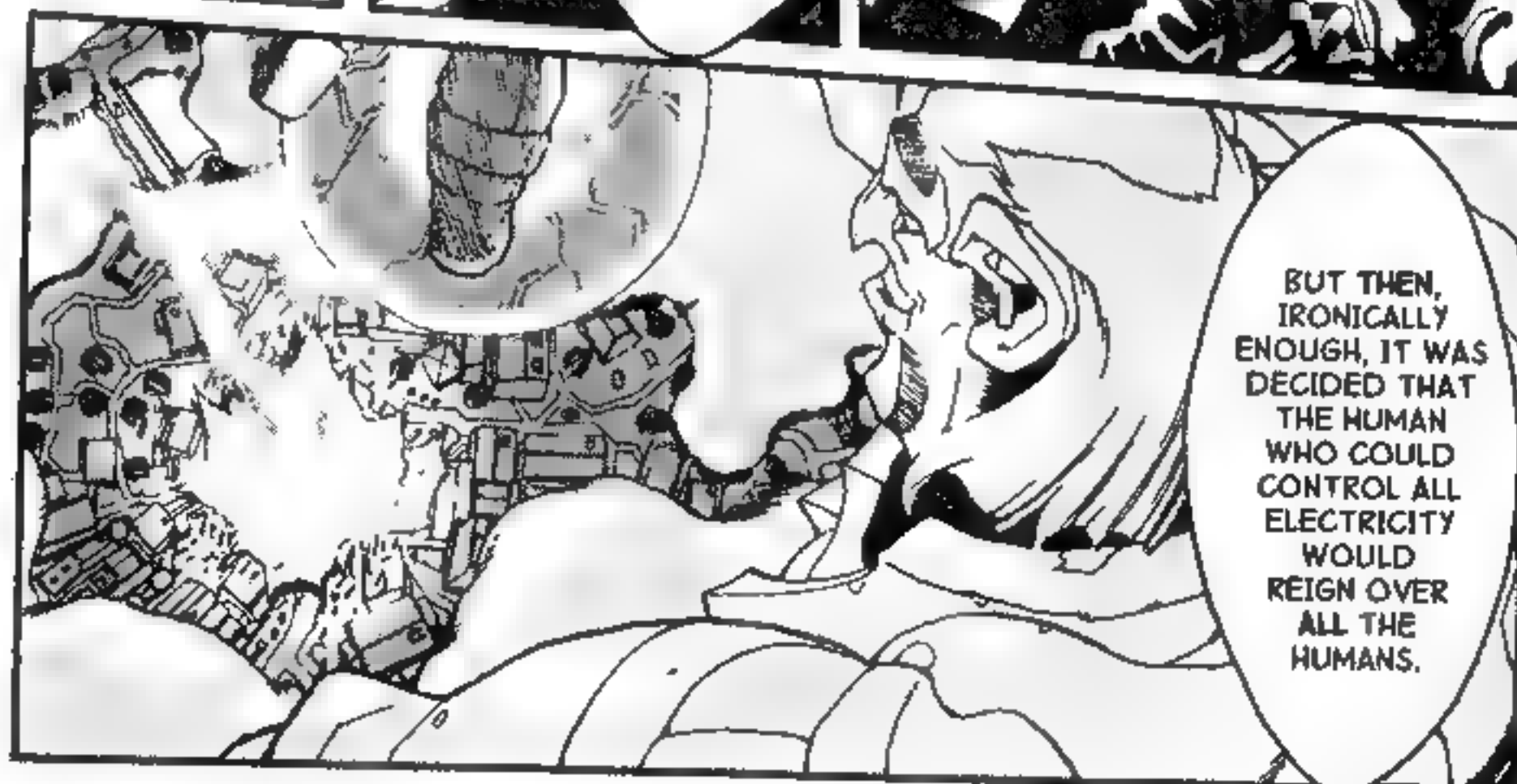




...AND SOON
AFTER,
LIGHTNING--
ELECTRICITY--
BECAME THE
PROPERTY OF
EVERY HUMAN
BEING.

SEE, LIGHTNING
USED TO BE THIS
MYSTERIOUS
TECHNIQUE ONLY
A GOD COULD
PERFORM...

...BUT ONE
DAY, HUMANS
CAUGHT THAT
LIGHTNING,
HARNESSED IT
AND CALLED
IT ELECTRIC-
ITY...

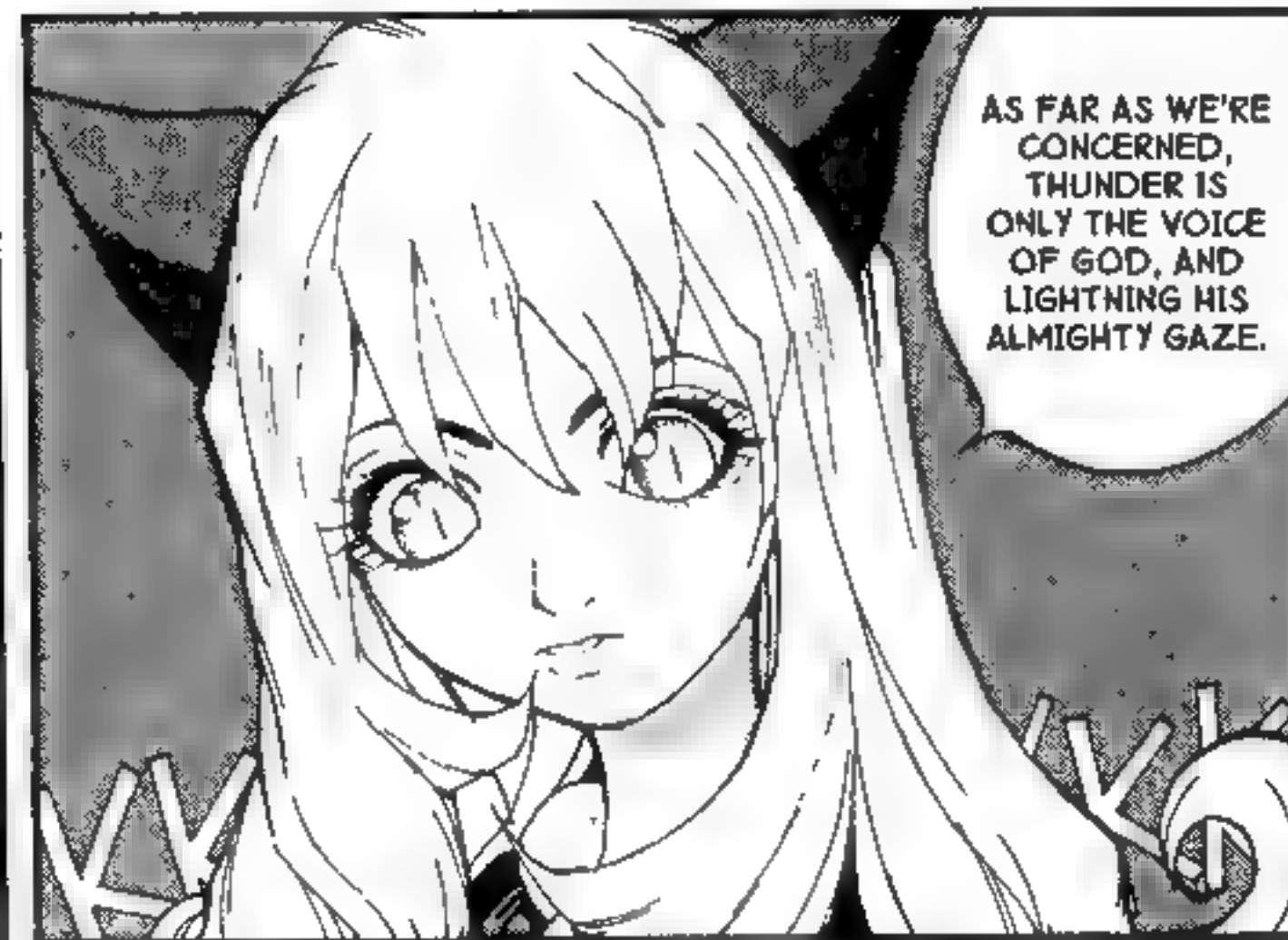


BUT THEN,
IRONICALLY
ENOUGH, IT WAS
DECIDED THAT
THE HUMAN
WHO COULD
CONTROL ALL
ELECTRICITY
WOULD REIGN OVER
ALL THE HUMANS.



HUH?

*Sometimes I really
don't get you breads.*



AS FAR AS WE'RE
CONCERNED,
THUNDER IS
ONLY THE VOICE
OF GOD, AND
LIGHTNING HIS
ALMIGHTY GAZE.



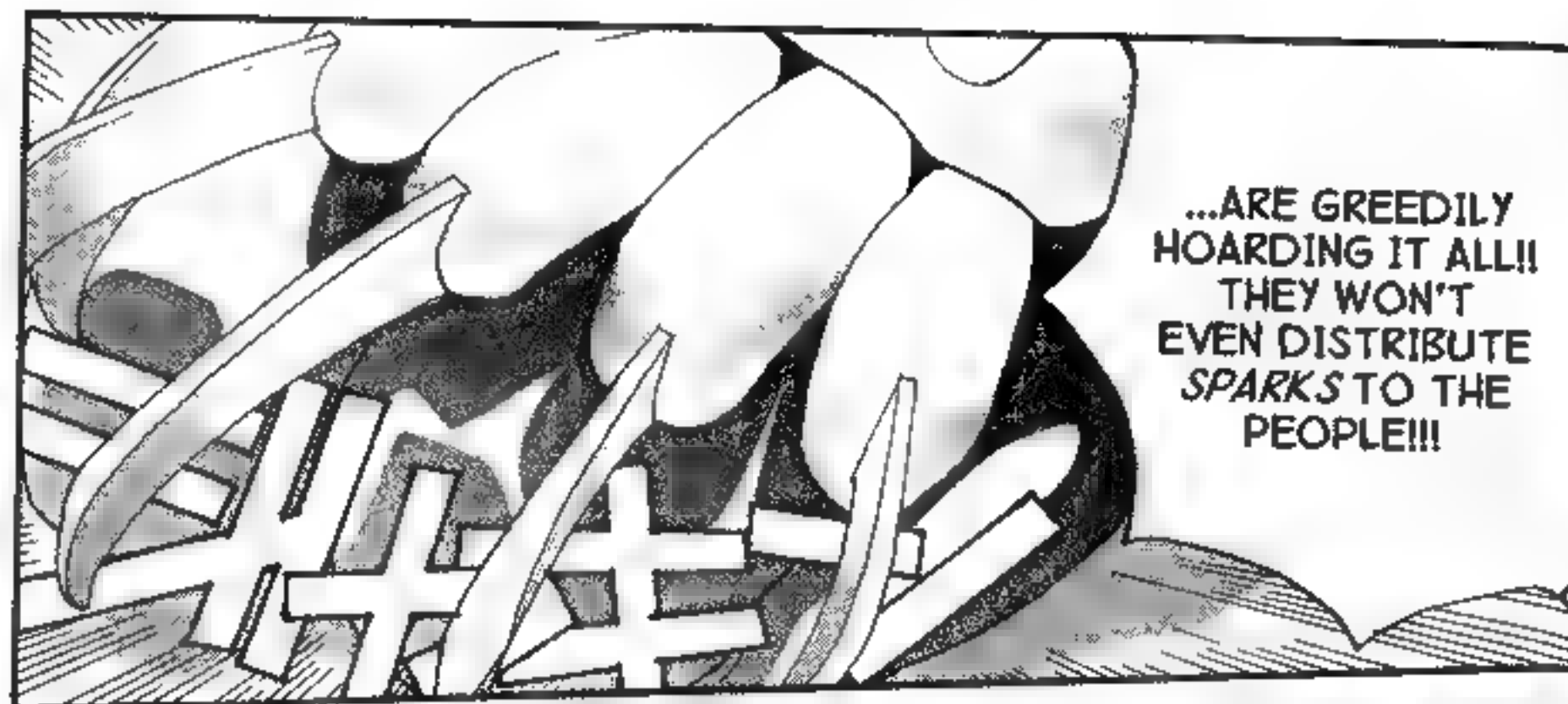
AND THE PEOPLE
OF FUZZY NAVEL
CURRENTLY HAVE A
MONOPOLY ON GOD'S
VOICE AND GAZE...IS
THAT IT?



EASY,
DOCTOR
KIR...IT'S
LIKE THIS.



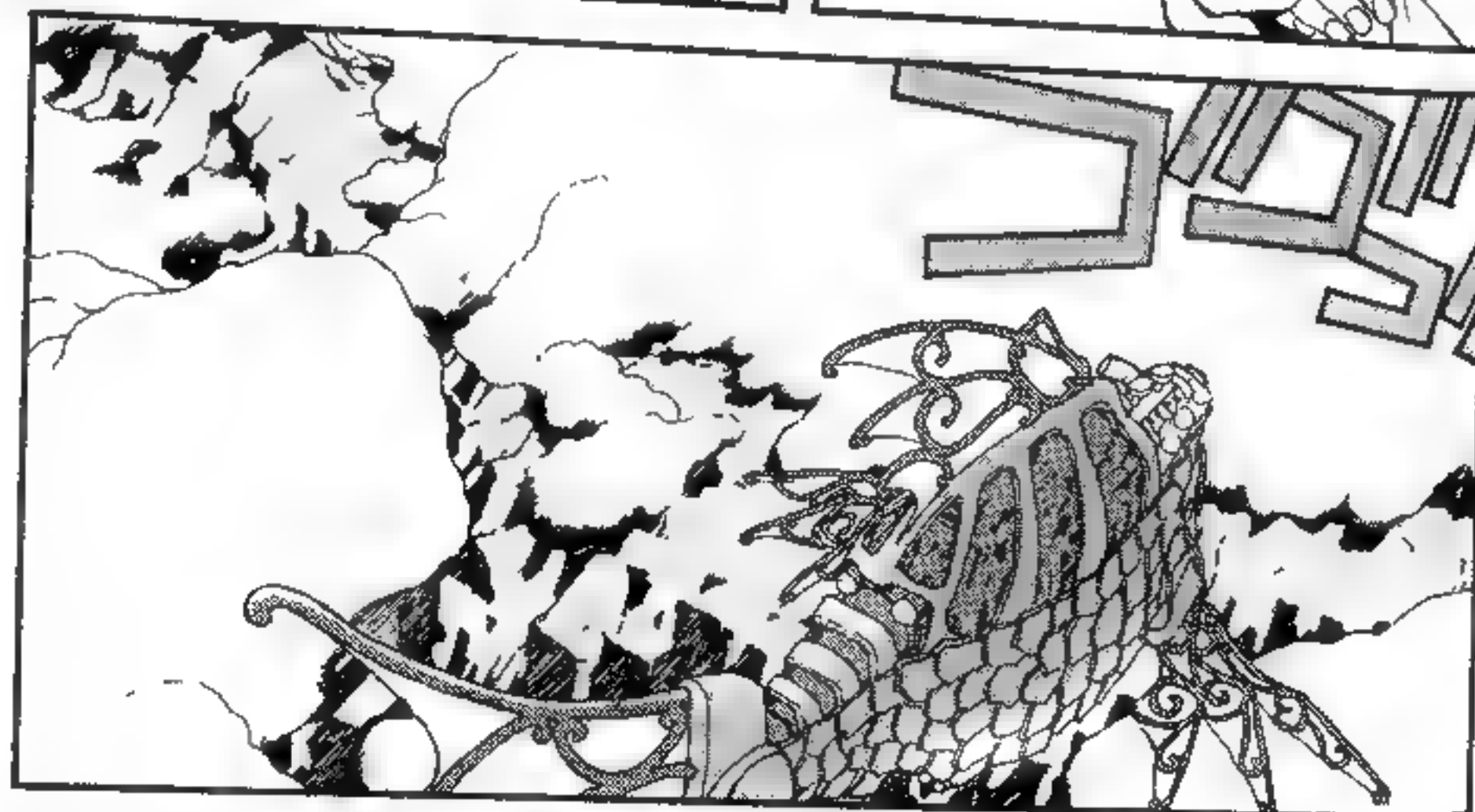
NO, JING--
NOT YOU,
TOO!!



...ARE GREEDILY
HOARDING IT ALL!!
THEY WON'T
EVEN DISTRIBUTE
SPARKS TO THE
PEOPLE!!!



A LITTLE
LOUDER,
PLEASE? I
DON'T THINK
THEY CAN
HEAR YOU
DOWN THERE.



ARE YOU
SAYING THIS
FAKE GOD
PERSON IS
STILL IN FUZZY
NAVEL?



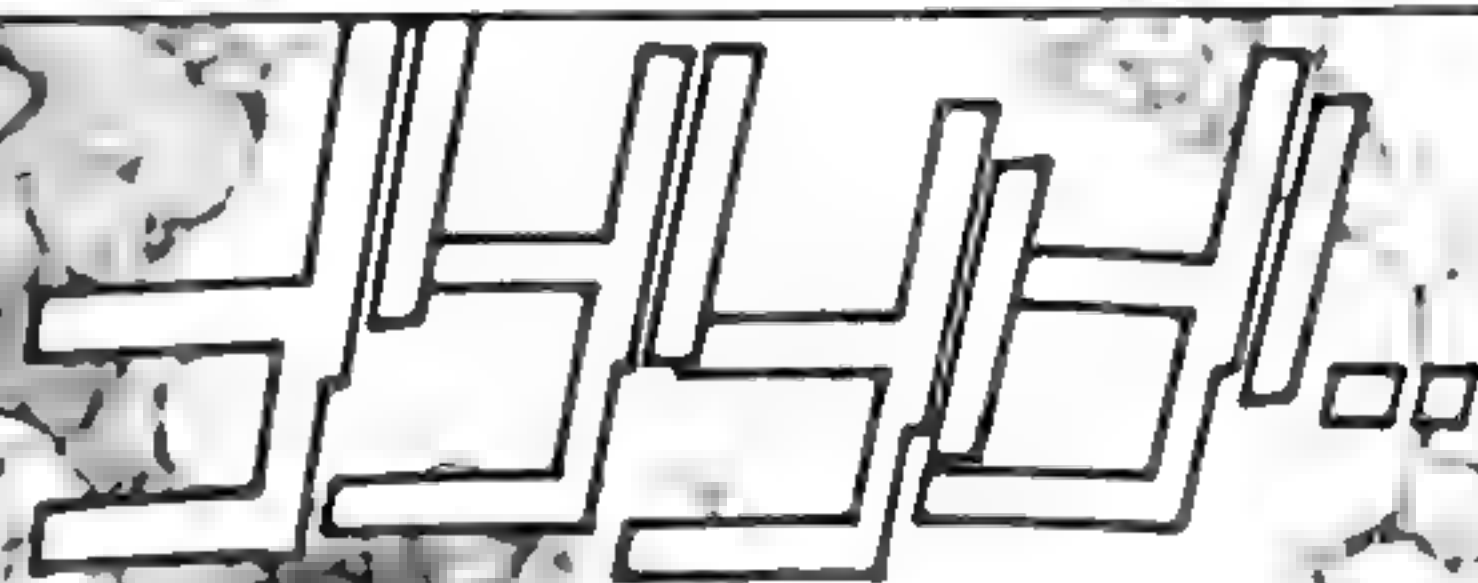
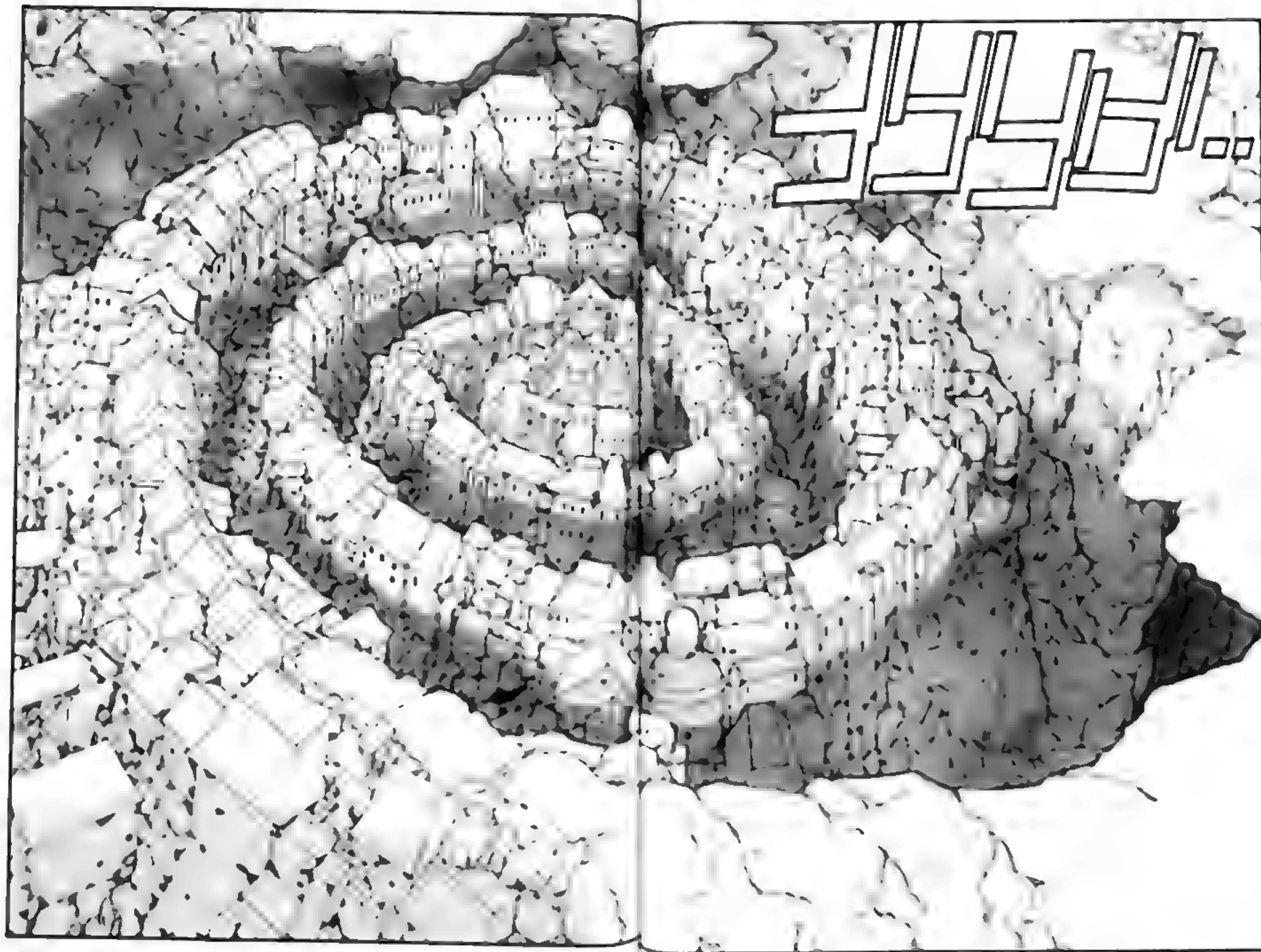
AND VOILÀ--
A NEW GOD
WAS BORN!

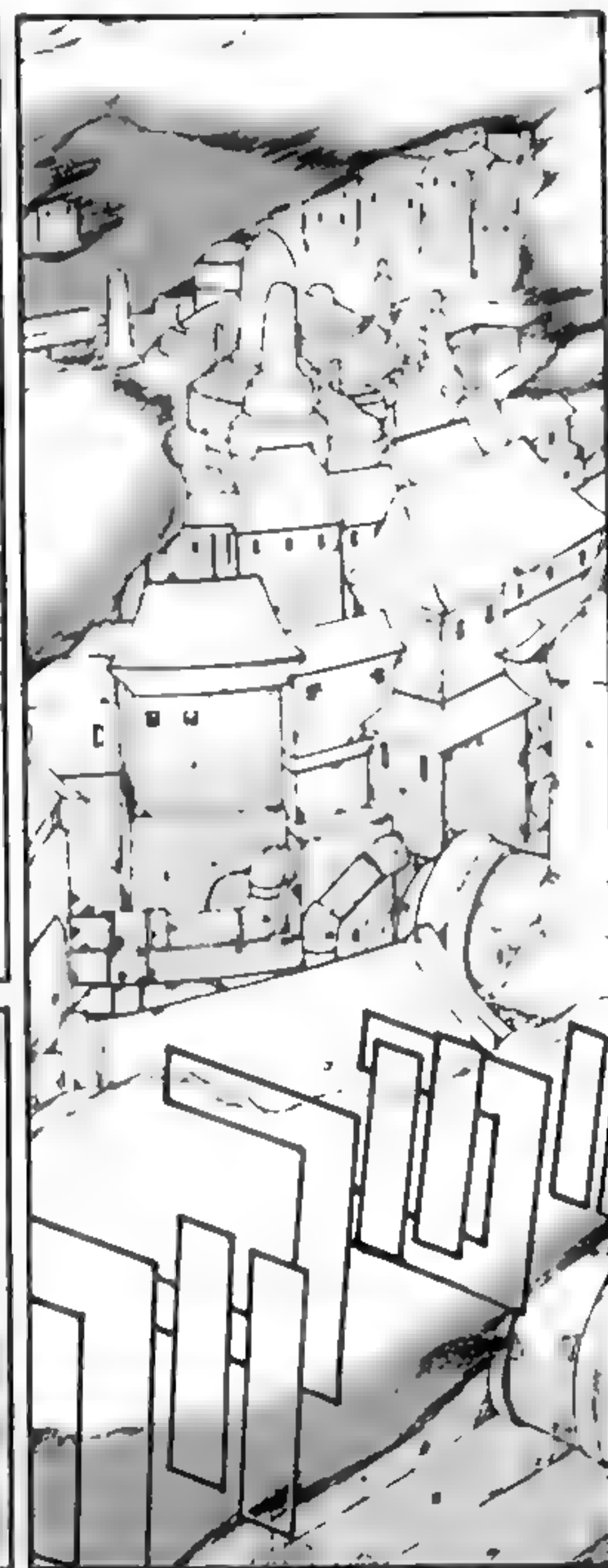
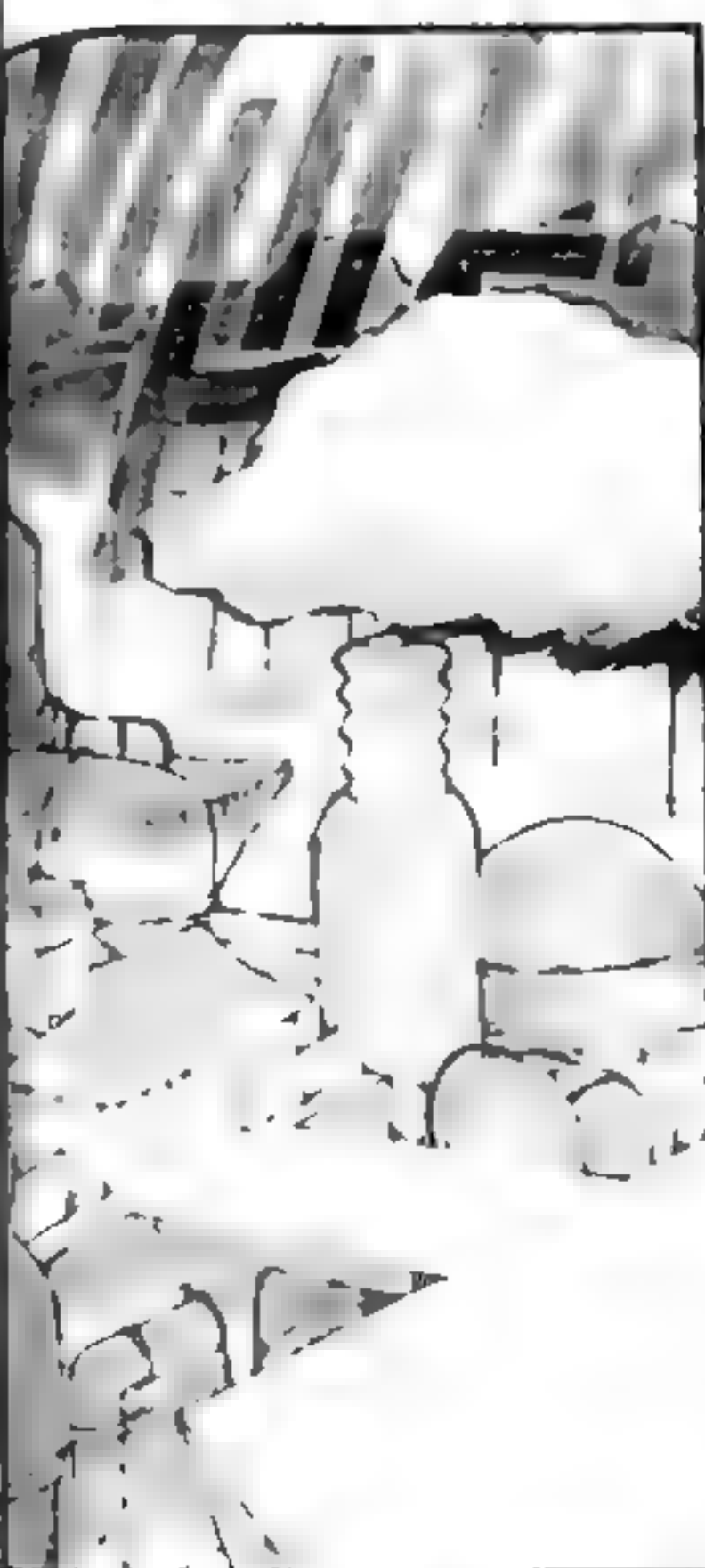
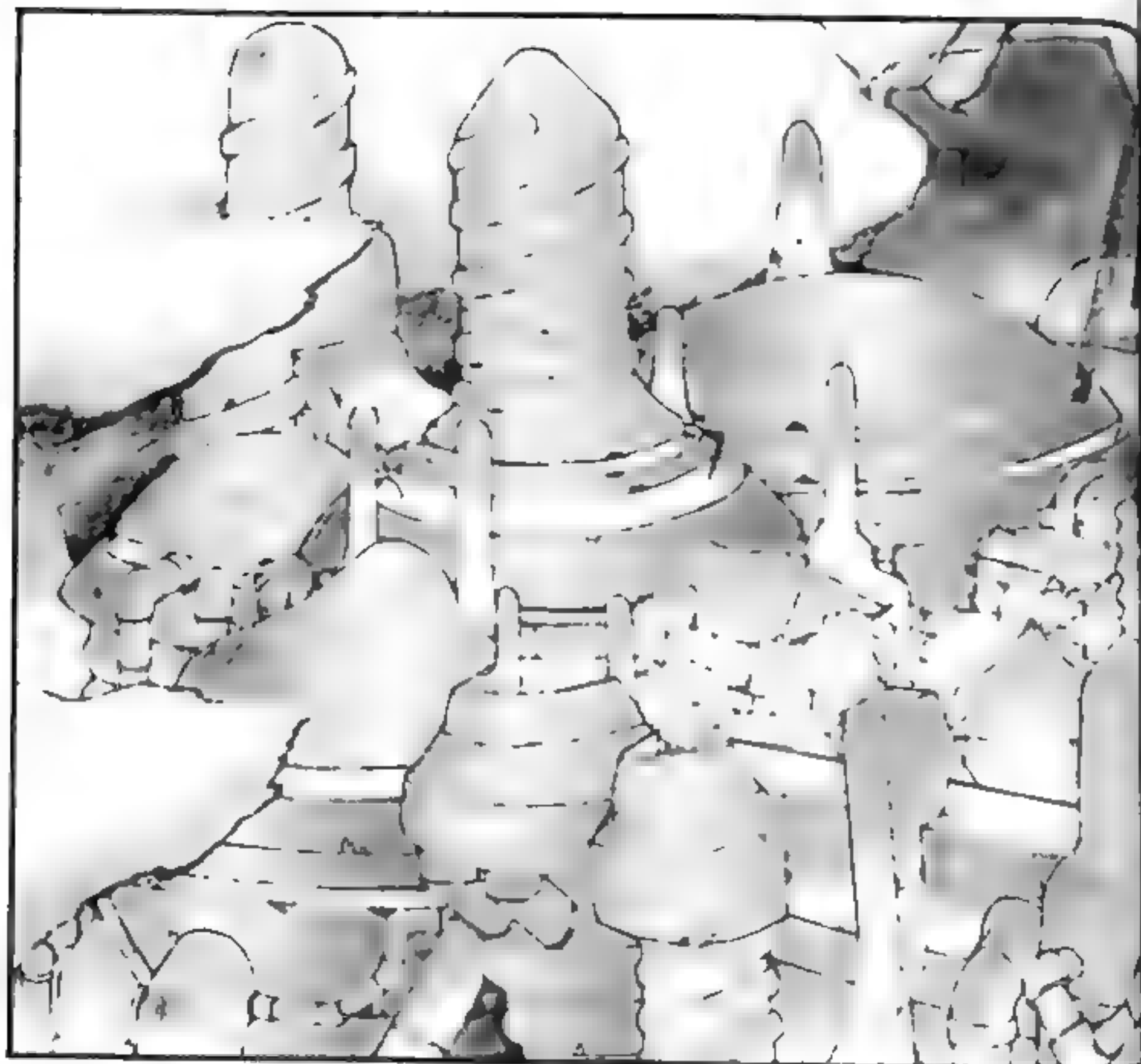


AND THOSE
GUYS...
THE CAHIER
SECT...



ELECTRICITY...
LIGHTNING...
SHOULD
SHINE FOR
EVERYONE.

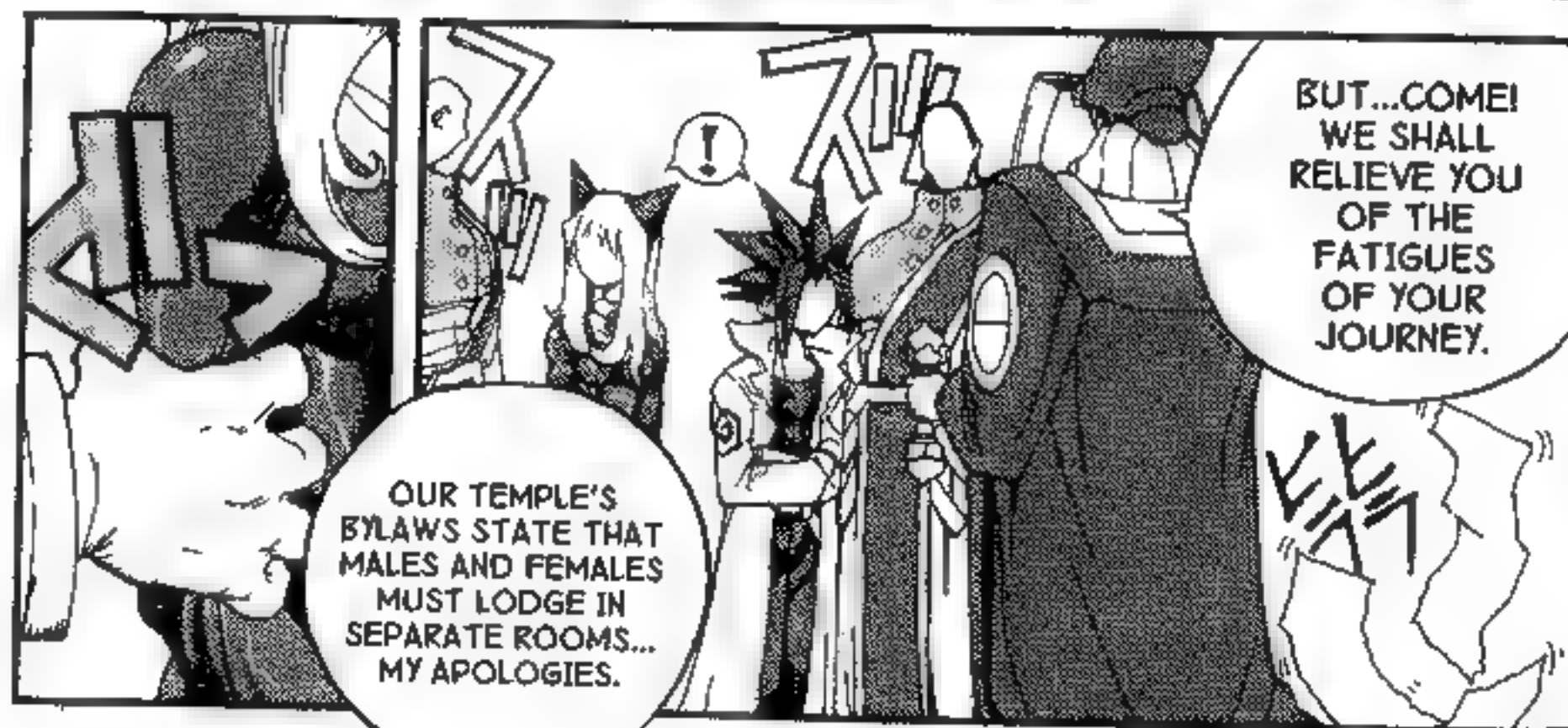






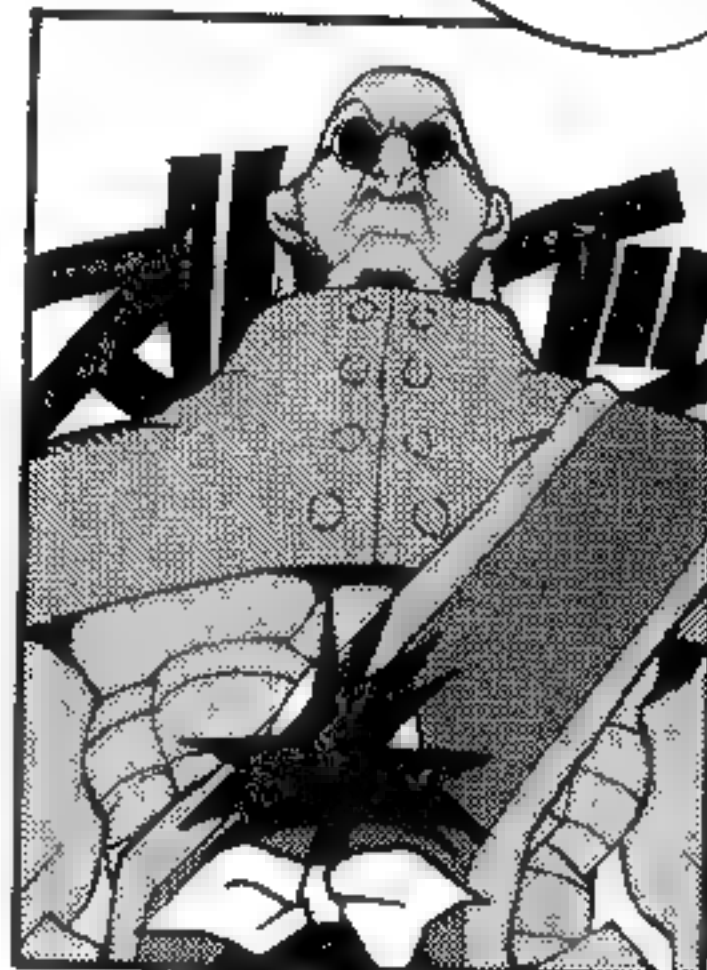
A MAP LIKE THIS
COULD NOT HAVE
MUCH MEANING TO
MANY PEOPLE.

*Only a very few lives
have any predestined
path.*

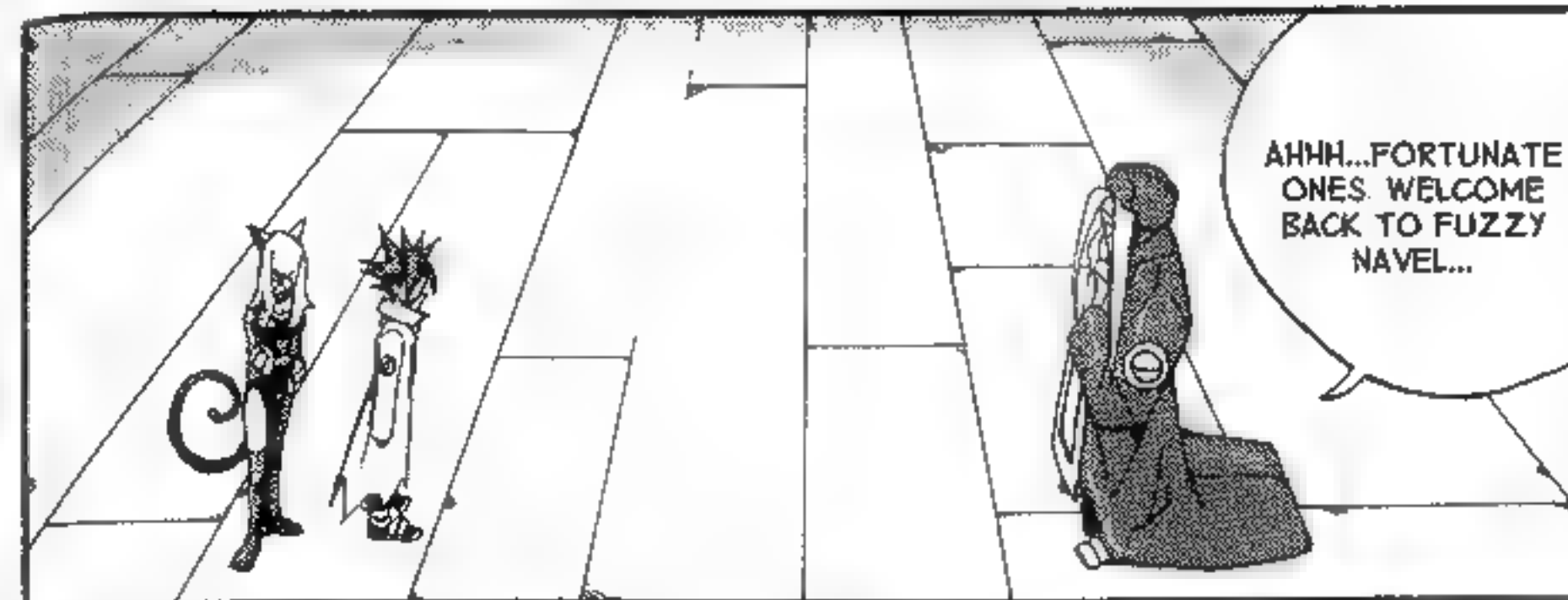
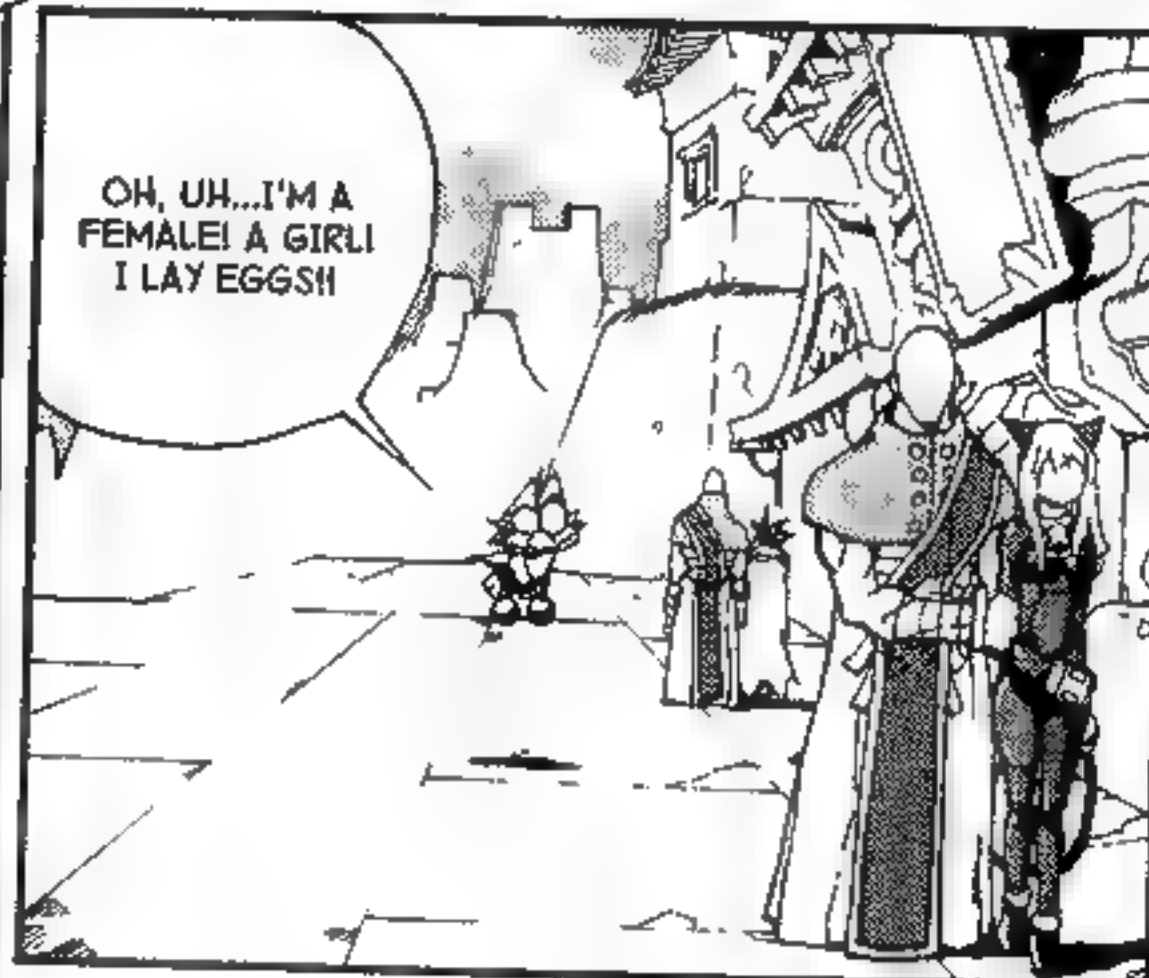


OUR TEMPLE'S
BYLAWS STATE THAT
MALES AND FEMALES
MUST LODGE IN
SEPARATE ROOMS...
MY APOLOGIES.

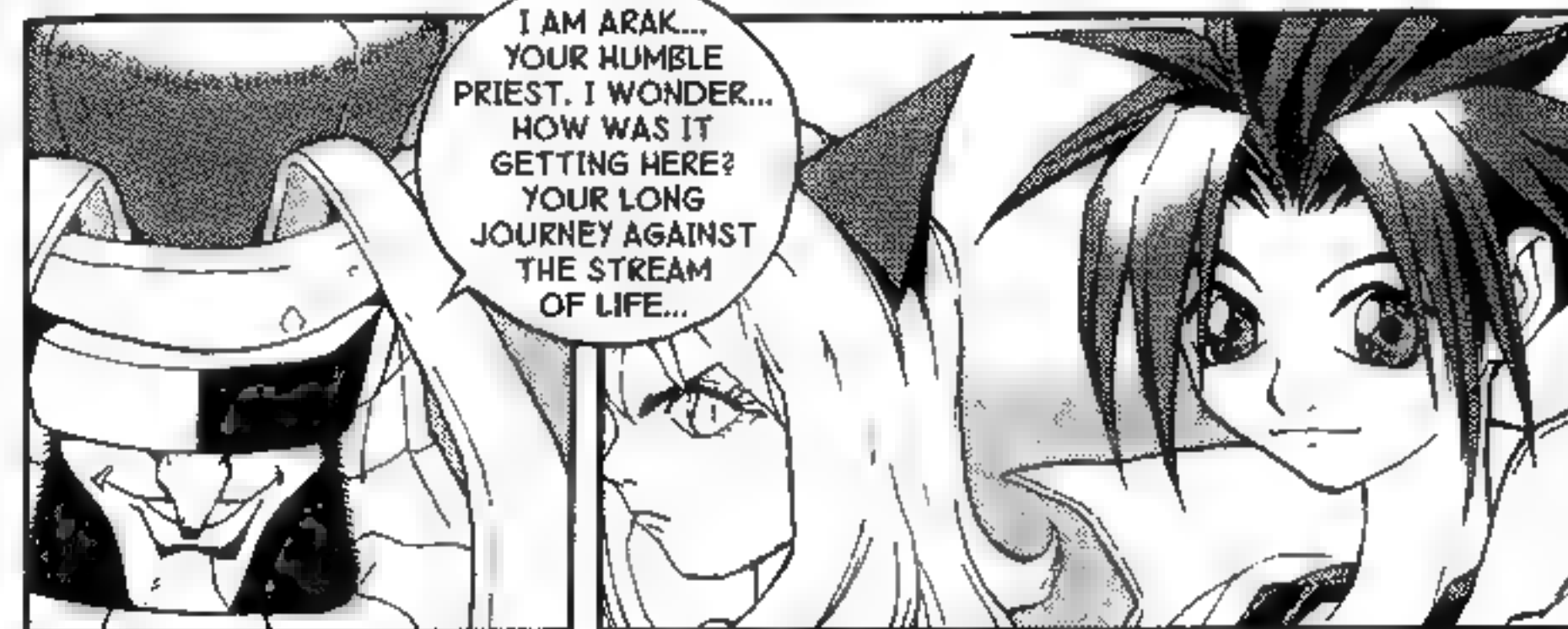
BUT...COME!
WE SHALL
RELIEVE YOU
OF THE
FATIGUES
OF YOUR
JOURNEY.



OH, UH...I'M A
FEMALE! A GIRL!
I LAY EGGS!



AHHH...FORTUNATE
ONES WELCOME
BACK TO FUZZY
NAVEL...



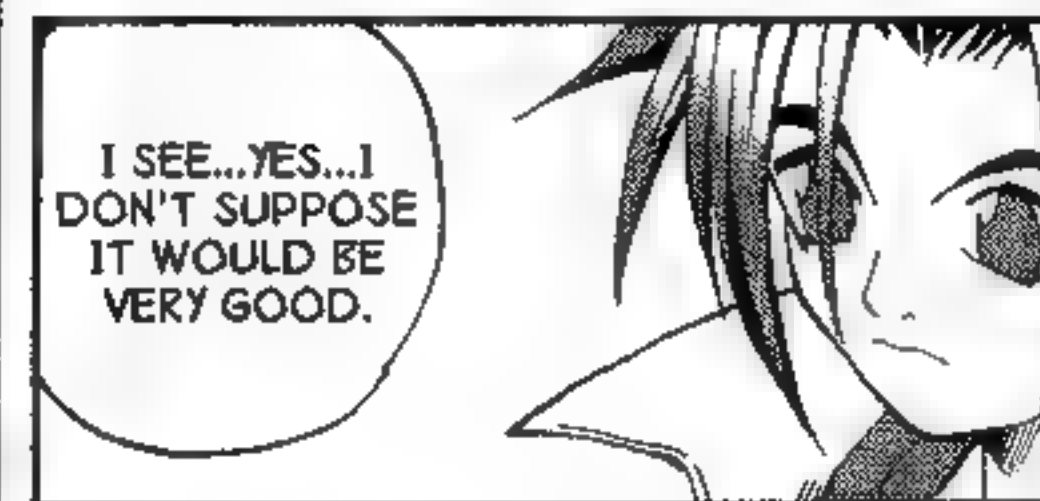
I AM ARAK...
YOUR HUMBLE
PRIEST. I WONDER...
HOW WAS IT
GETTING HERE?
YOUR LONG
JOURNEY AGAINST
THE STREAM
OF LIFE...

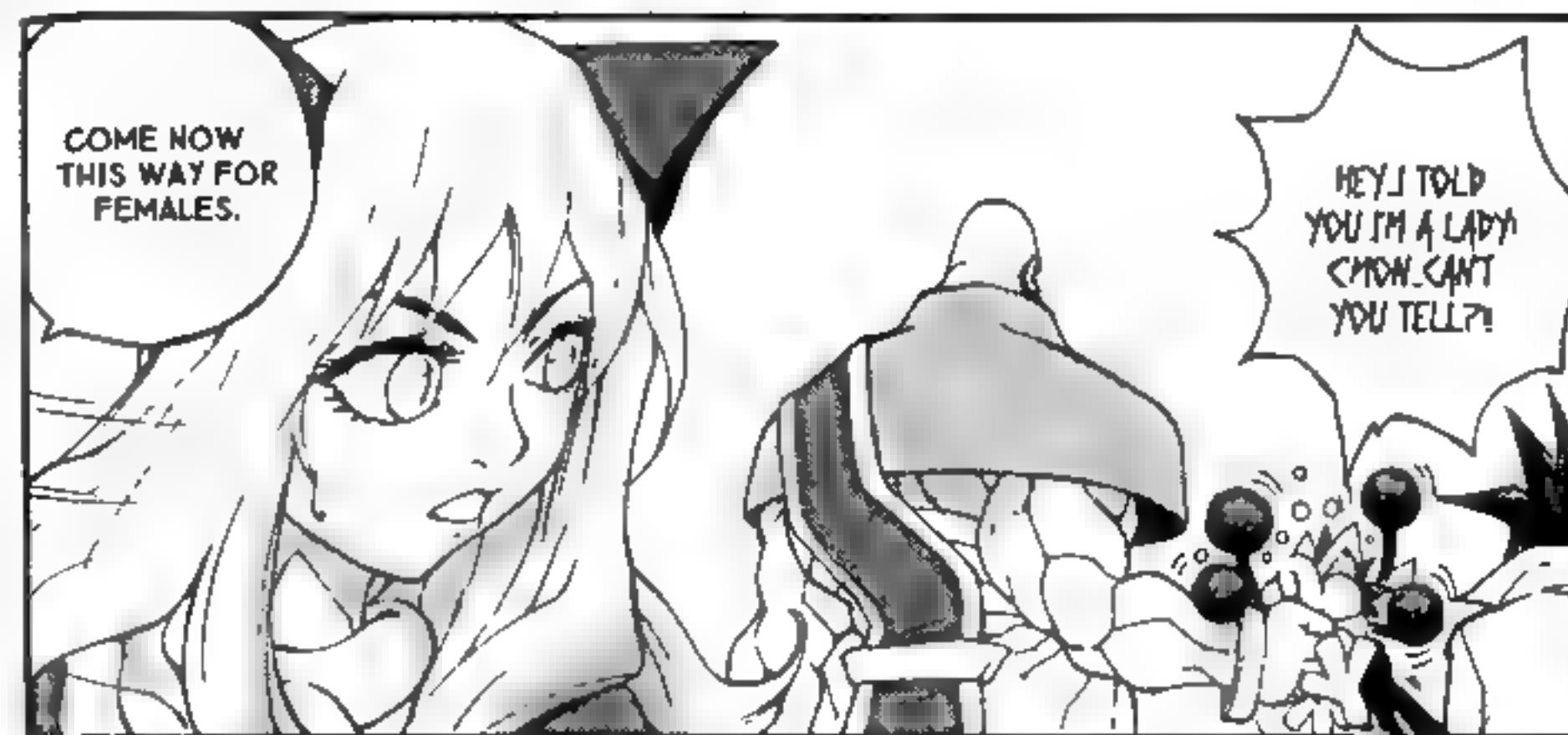
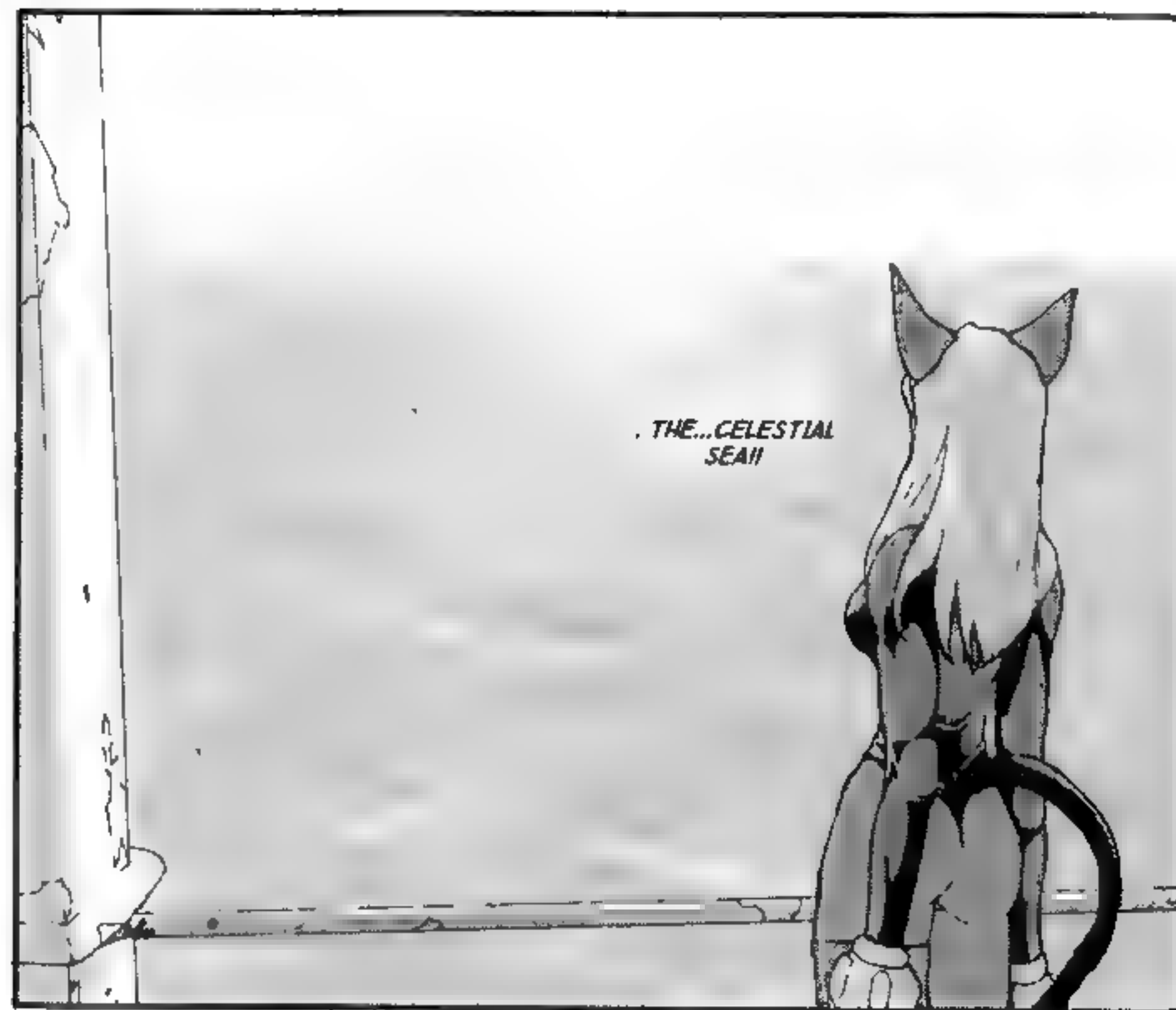


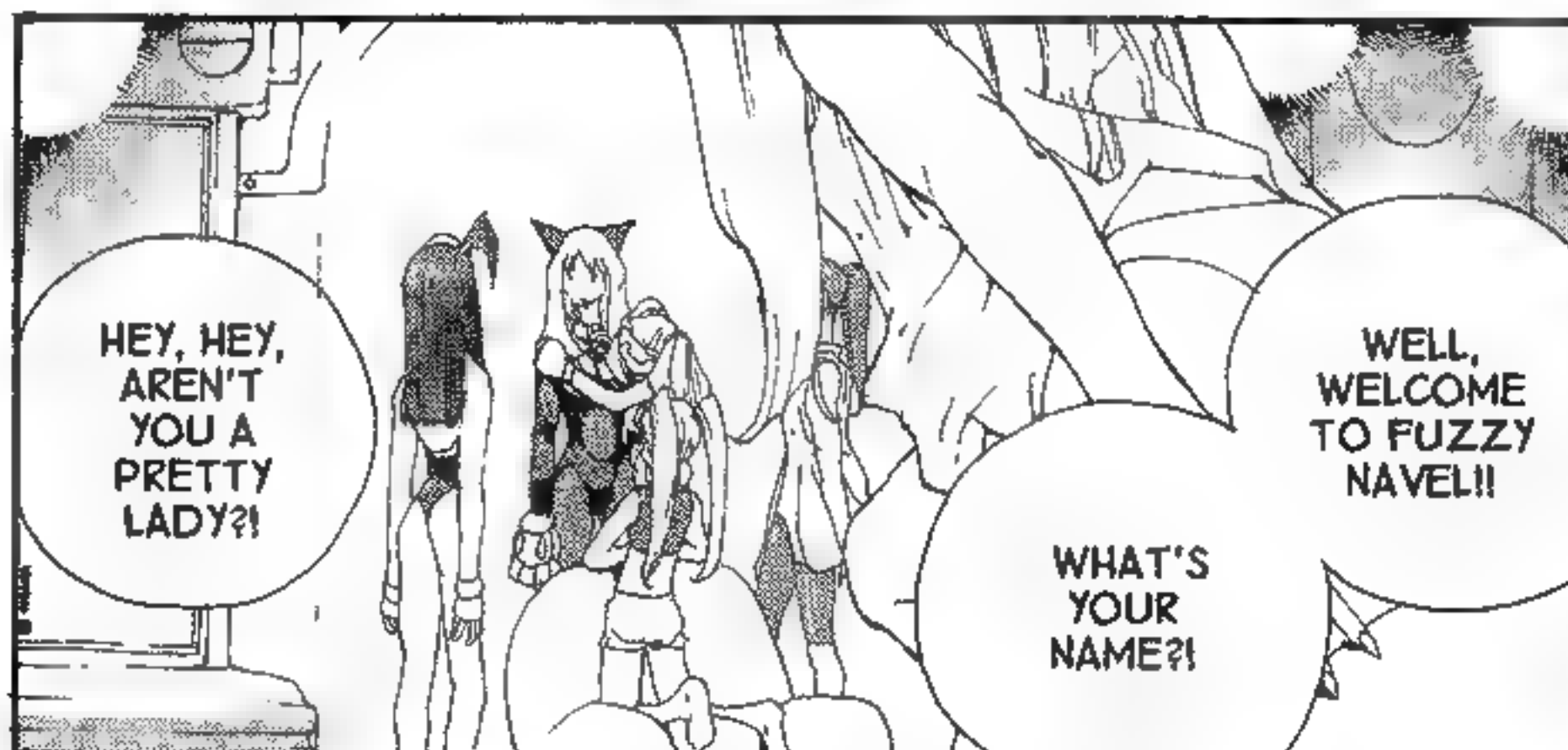
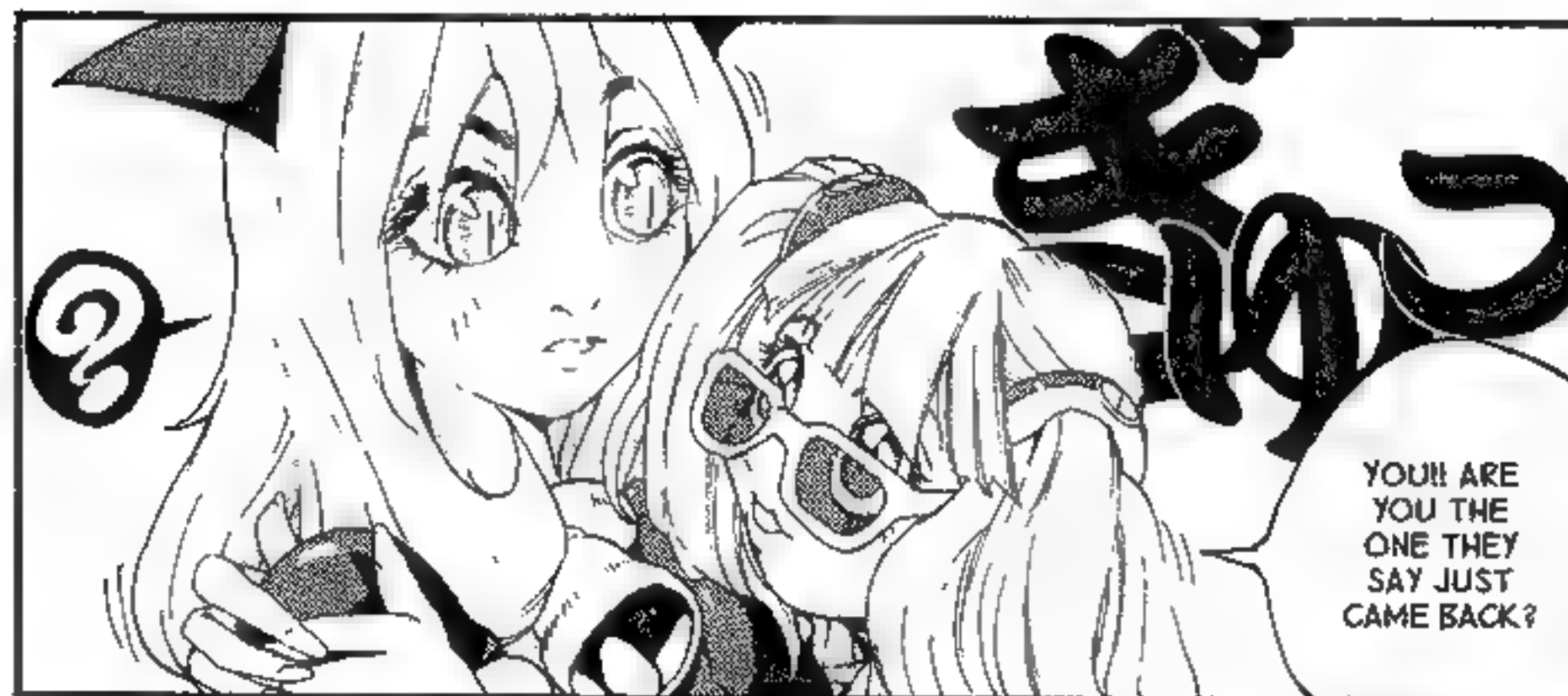
HEY, LOOK BUDDY--IT'S NOT
LIKE YOU GUYS MADE IT EASY!
SLAMMING THE DOOR ON US
TRAPPING US IN LIGHTNING AND
THIS IS A TERRIBLE MAP!



I SEE...YES...I
DON'T SUPPOSE
IT WOULD BE
VERY GOOD.

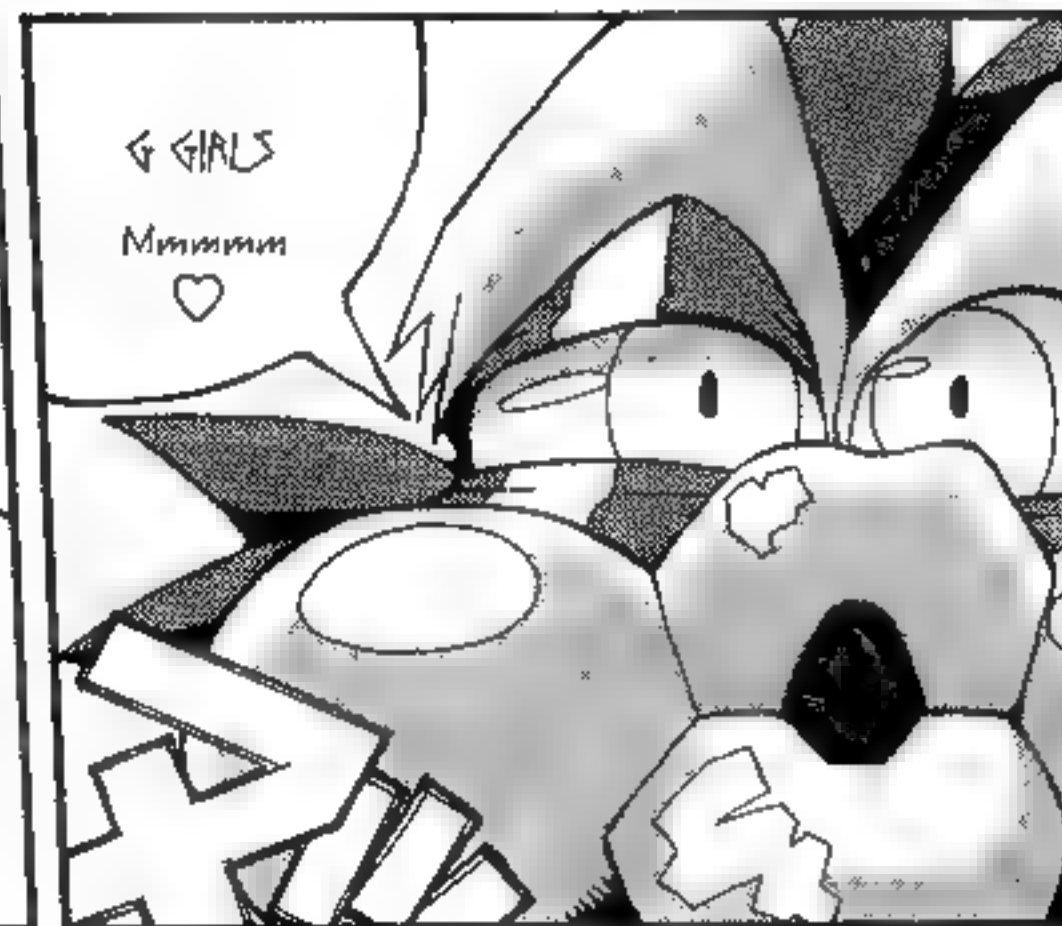
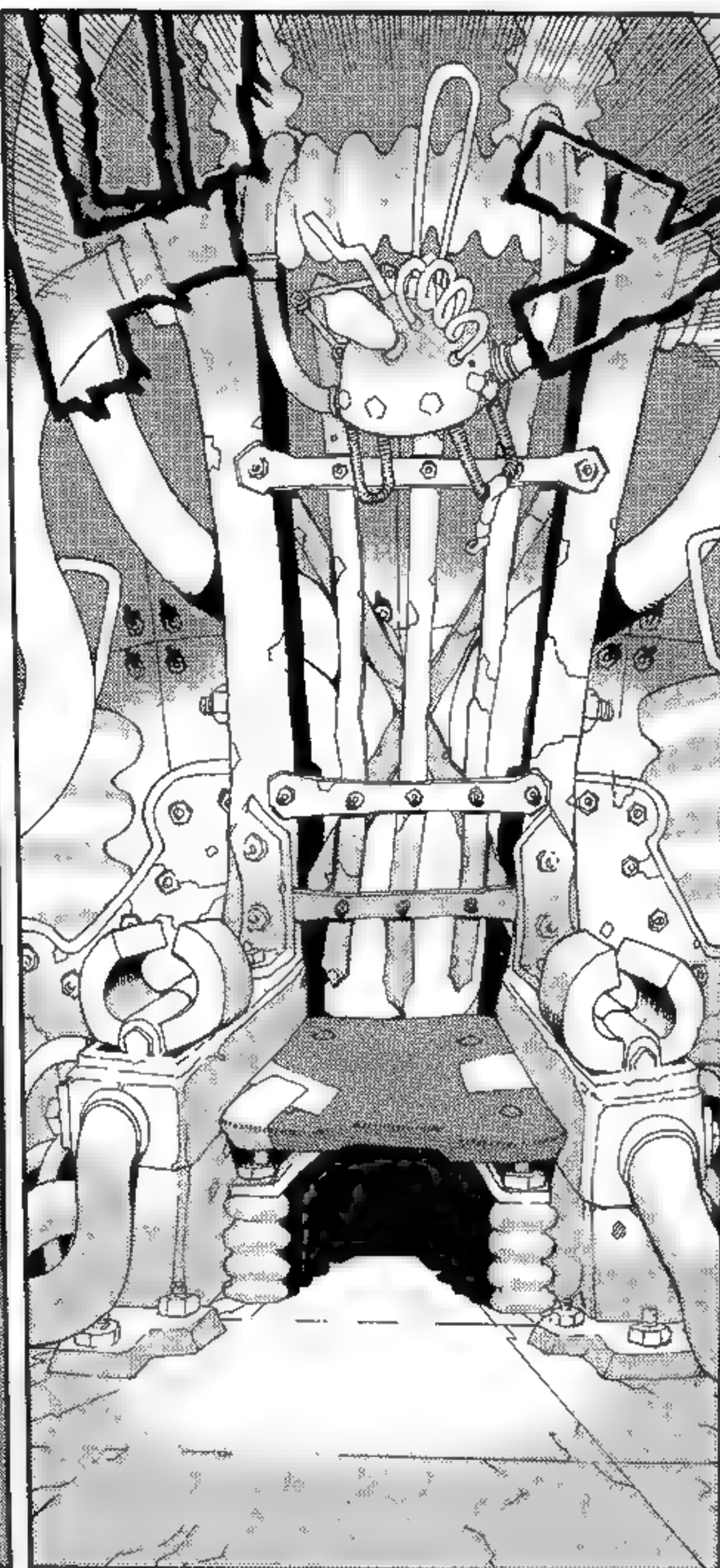
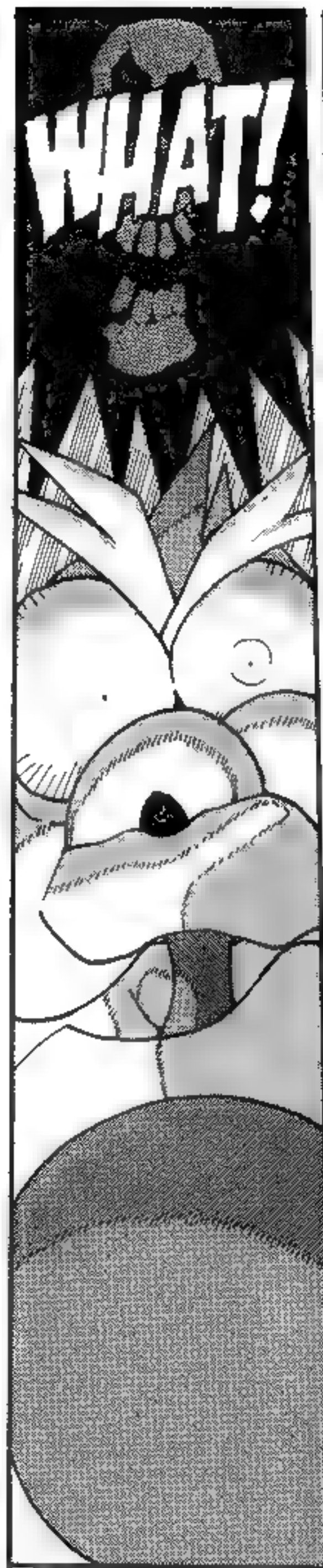


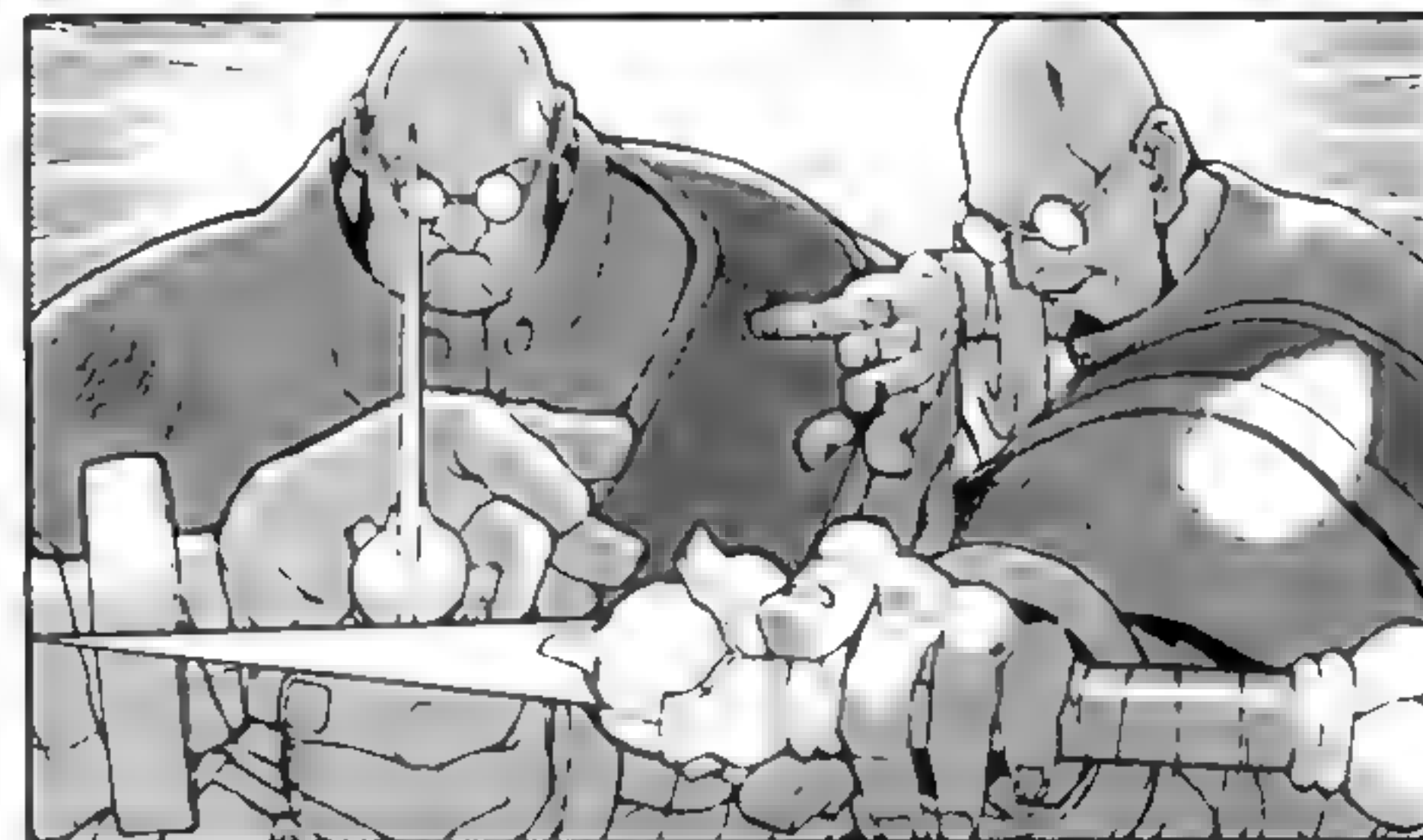
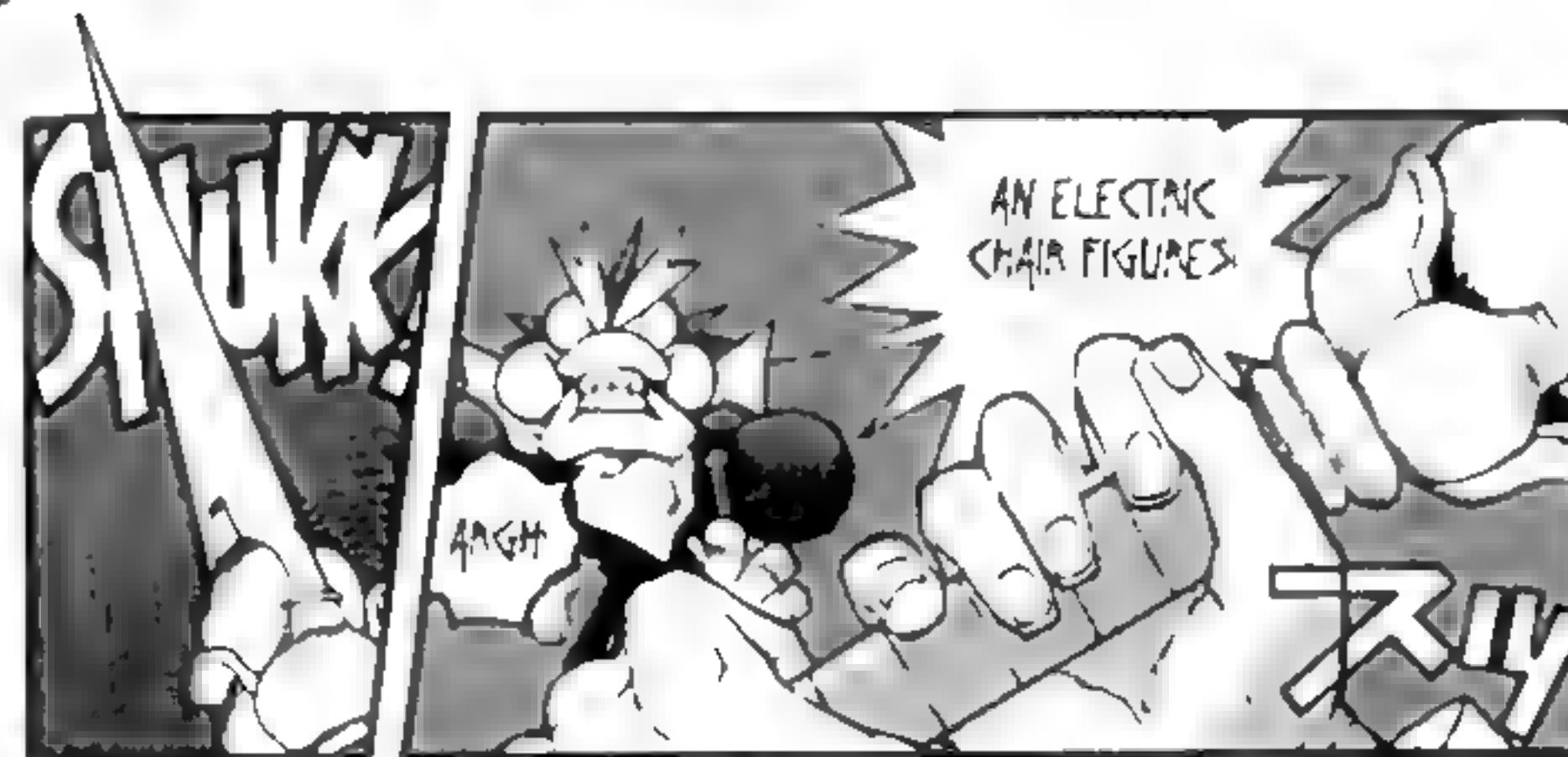
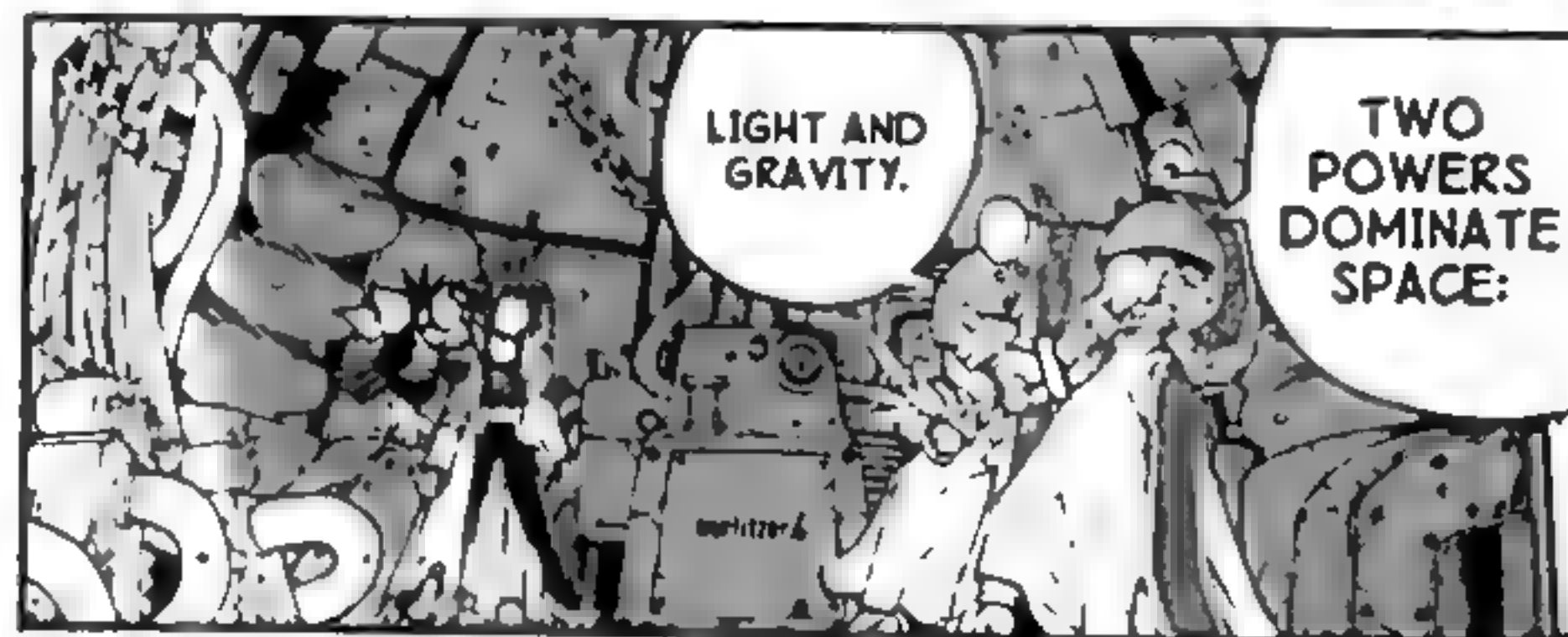


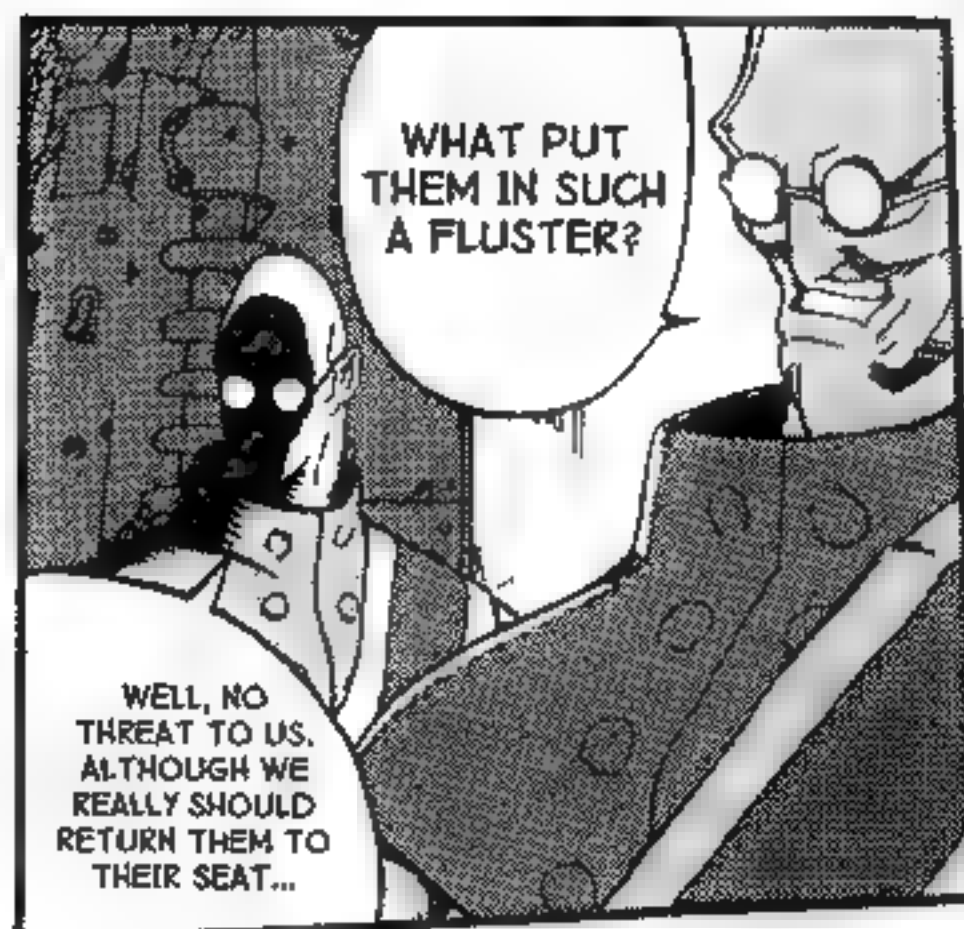


AVOLAI







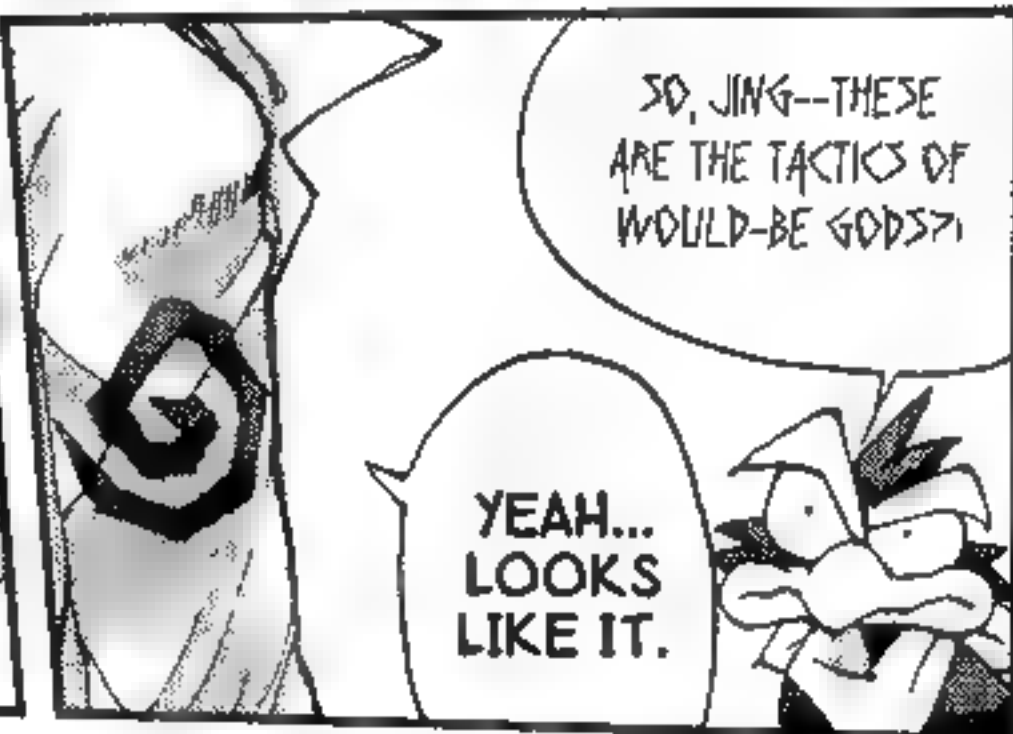




BRAVO

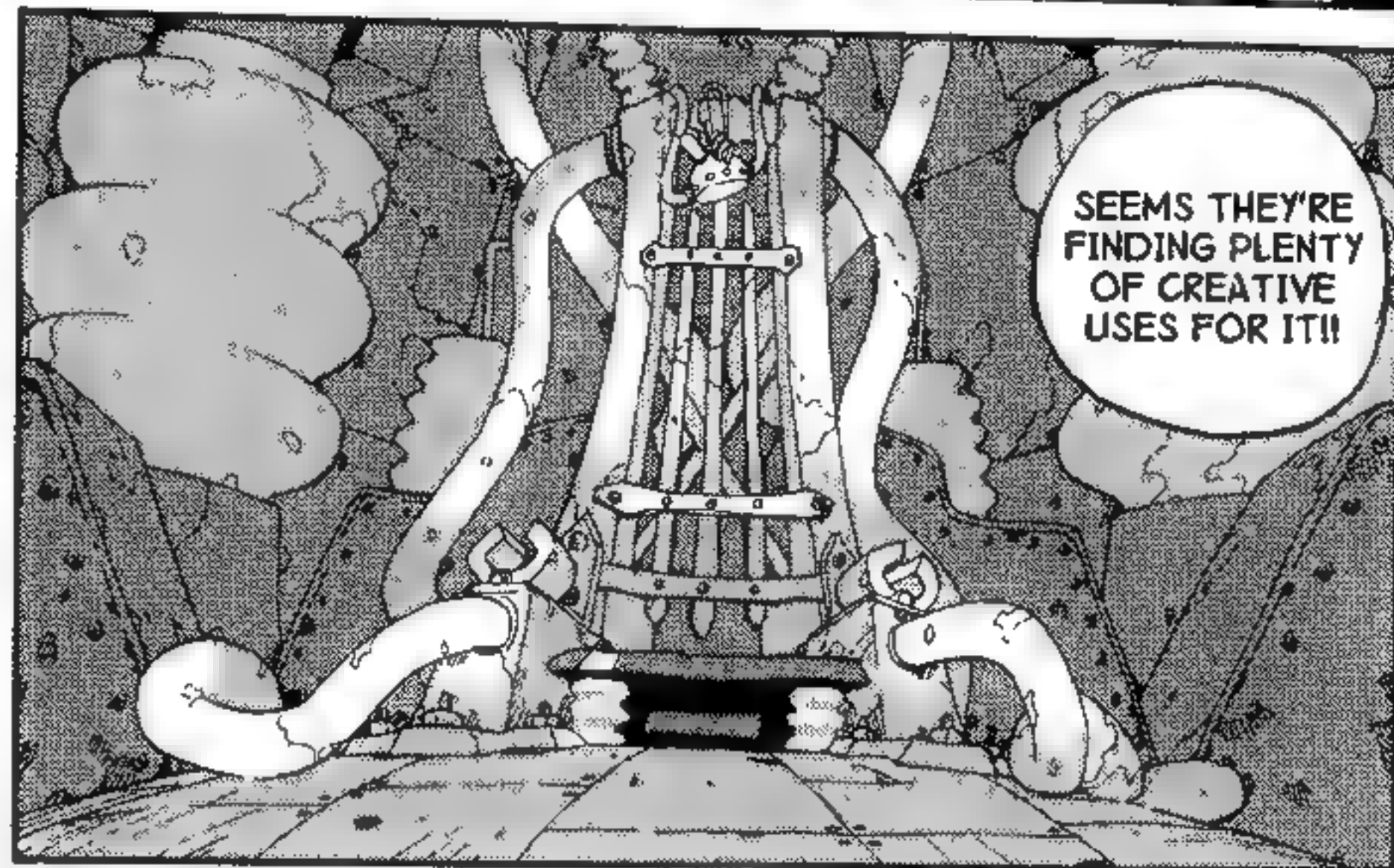


AND KIRSCH
WAS RIGHT...
ABOUT THE
LIGHTNING...



SO, JING--THESE
ARE THE TACTICS OF
WOULD-BE GODS?

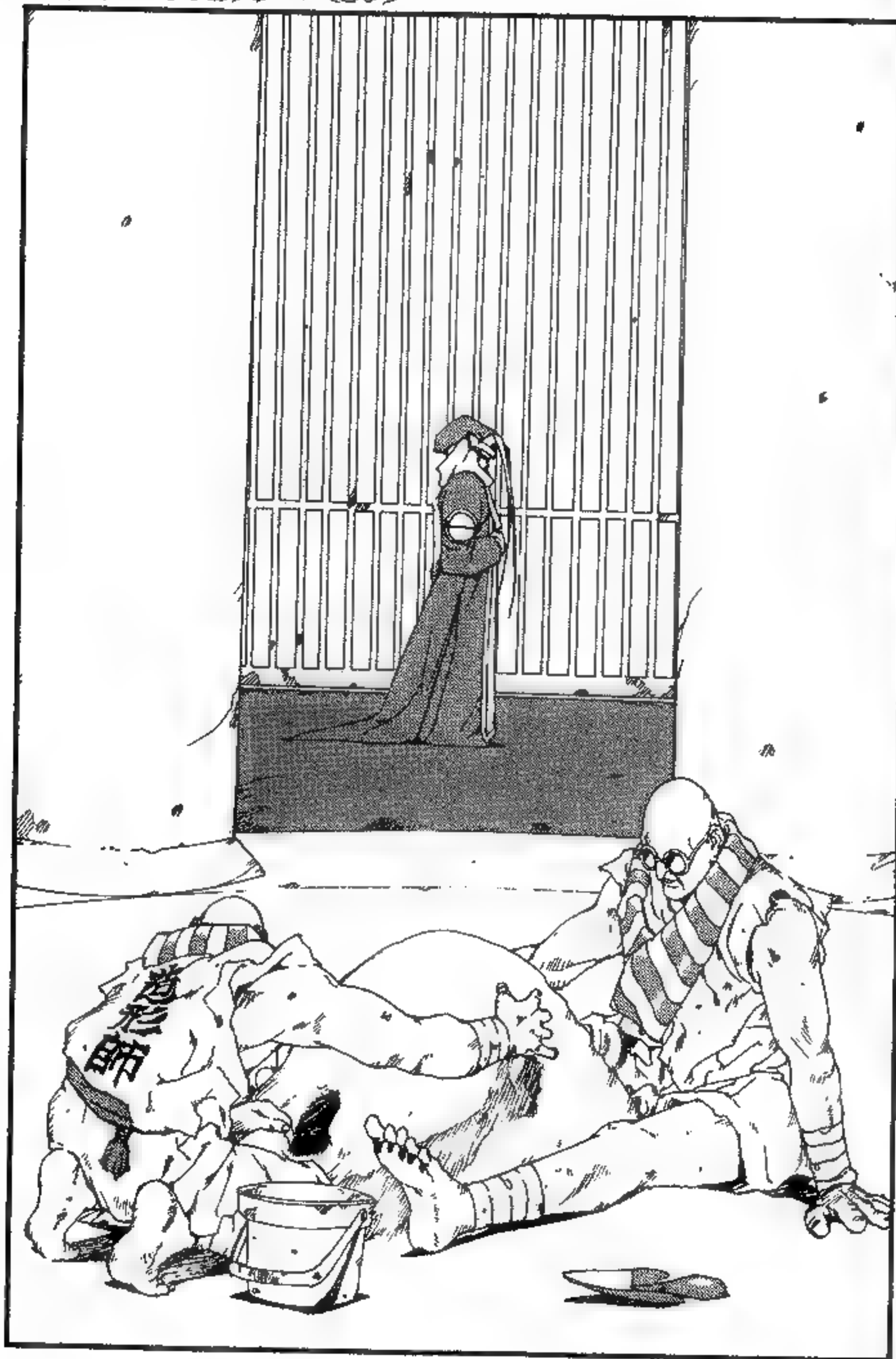
YEAH...
LOOKS
LIKE IT.



SEEMS THEY'RE
FINDING PLENTY
OF CREATIVE
USES FOR IT!!



...ROYALE!!!



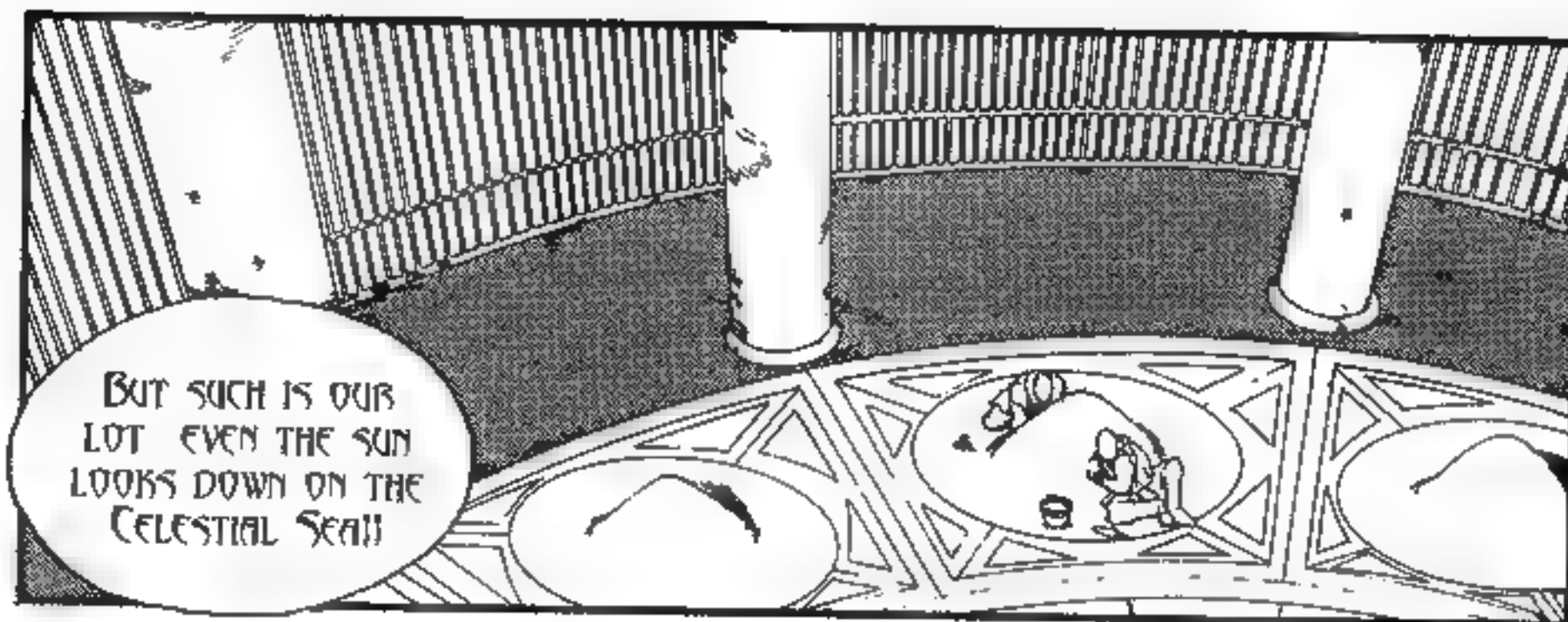
THE NIGHTTIME DEEPENS SILENTLY
AS DARKNESS CREEPS IN STEADILY
FROM AN UNKNOWN GARDEN IN THE SKY.

IN A TOWN LIT ONLY DURING THE DAY.

THE ELECTRICAL MISCHIEF OF GOD'S DEVICE
SHOWS NO SIGN OF ENDING SOON.

(EXCERPTS FROM THE DIARY OF ARAK,
A BELIEVER OF THE CAHIER SECT)





BUT SUCH IS OUR LOT EVEN THE SUN LOOKS DOWN ON THE CELESTIAL SEAL!!



BUT PAIN IS NOTHING COMPARED TO THE FAVOR OF LIGHT!!

SOME PAIN IS ONLY TO BE EXPECTED WITH SUCH A PROCEDURE



IN SPITE OF ALL THIS, ONE OF THE HEATHENS HAS REFUSED OUR CHARITY AND IS CURRENTLY BOOMING OUR TEMPLE

STILL...



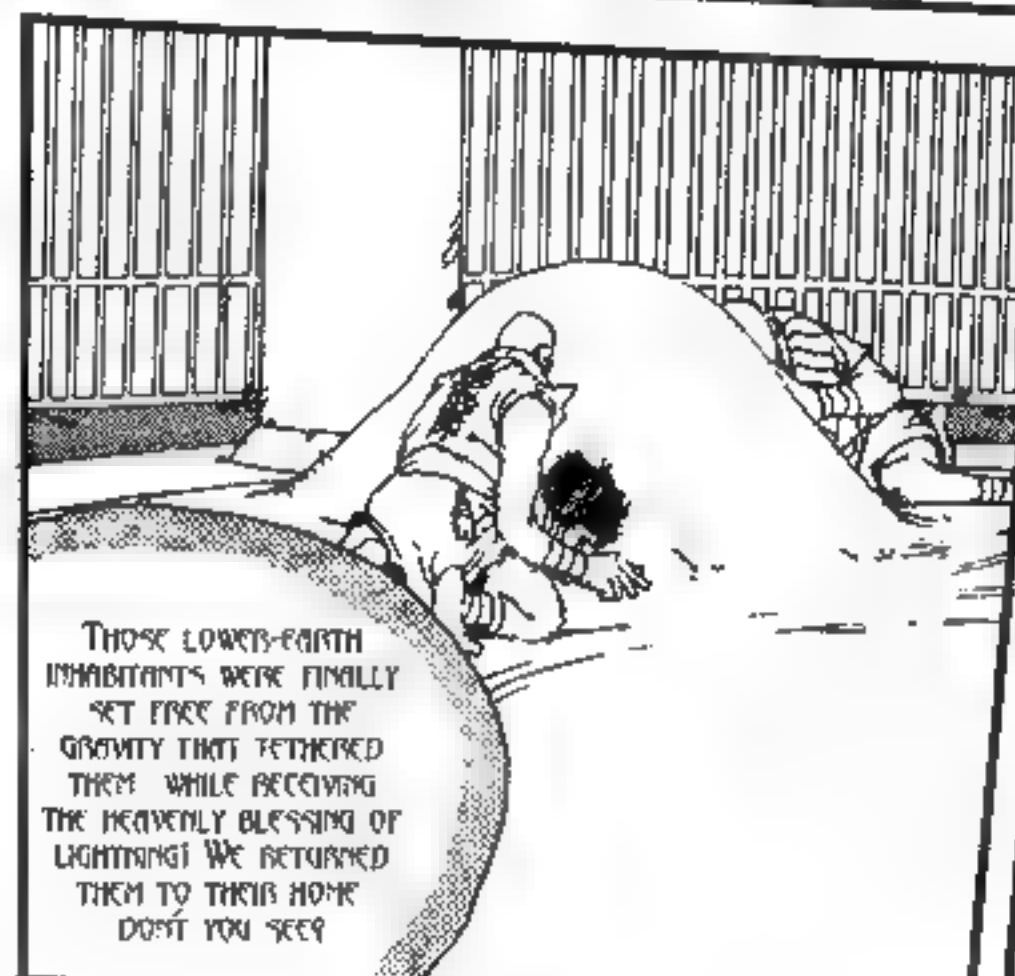
MURDER, YOU SAY?



...IT SEEMS TO CHAMPION NOTHING MORE THAN THE MURDER OF COMMON PEOPLE...EVEN AS WE UNSELFISHLY DEVOTE OUR LIVES TO FAITH!! HOW COULD THAT BE CALLED--



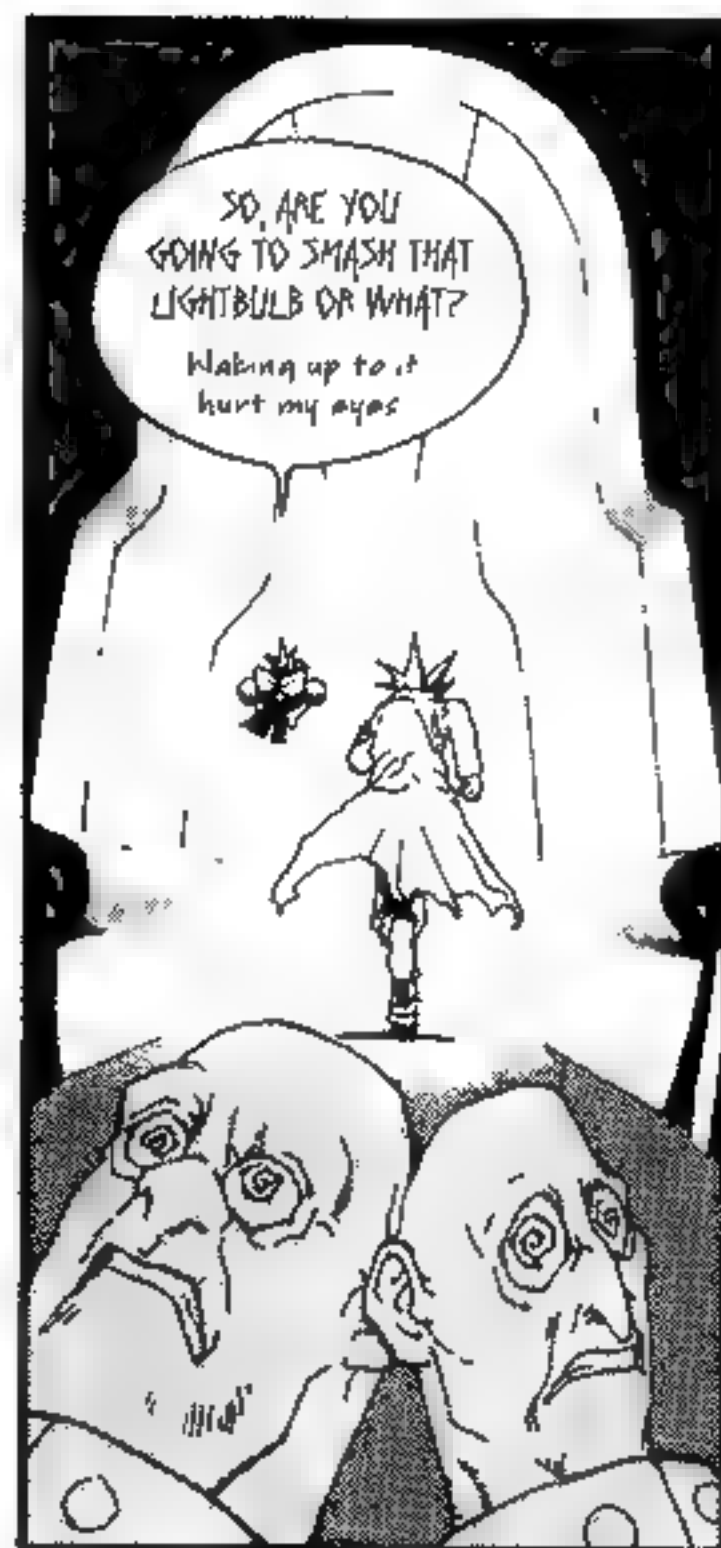
THAT WORD, SOMEWHAT LACKING IN FAVOR, DON'T YOU THINK?



THOSE LOWER-EARTH INHABITANTS WERE FINALLY SET FREE FROM THE GRAVITY THAT FETTERED THEM WHILE RECEIVING THE HEAVENLY BLESSING OF LIGHTNING! WE RETURNED THEM TO THEIR HOME DON'T YOU SEE?



NATURALLY, MURDER IS NOT CHARITY BUT THIS IS NOT COMMON MURDER. WE ARE HELPING THESE POOR PEOPLE RETURN TO THEIR BIRTHPLACE!



SO, ARE YOU
GOING TO SMASH THAT
LIGHTBULB OR WHAT?

Waking up to it
hurt my eyes

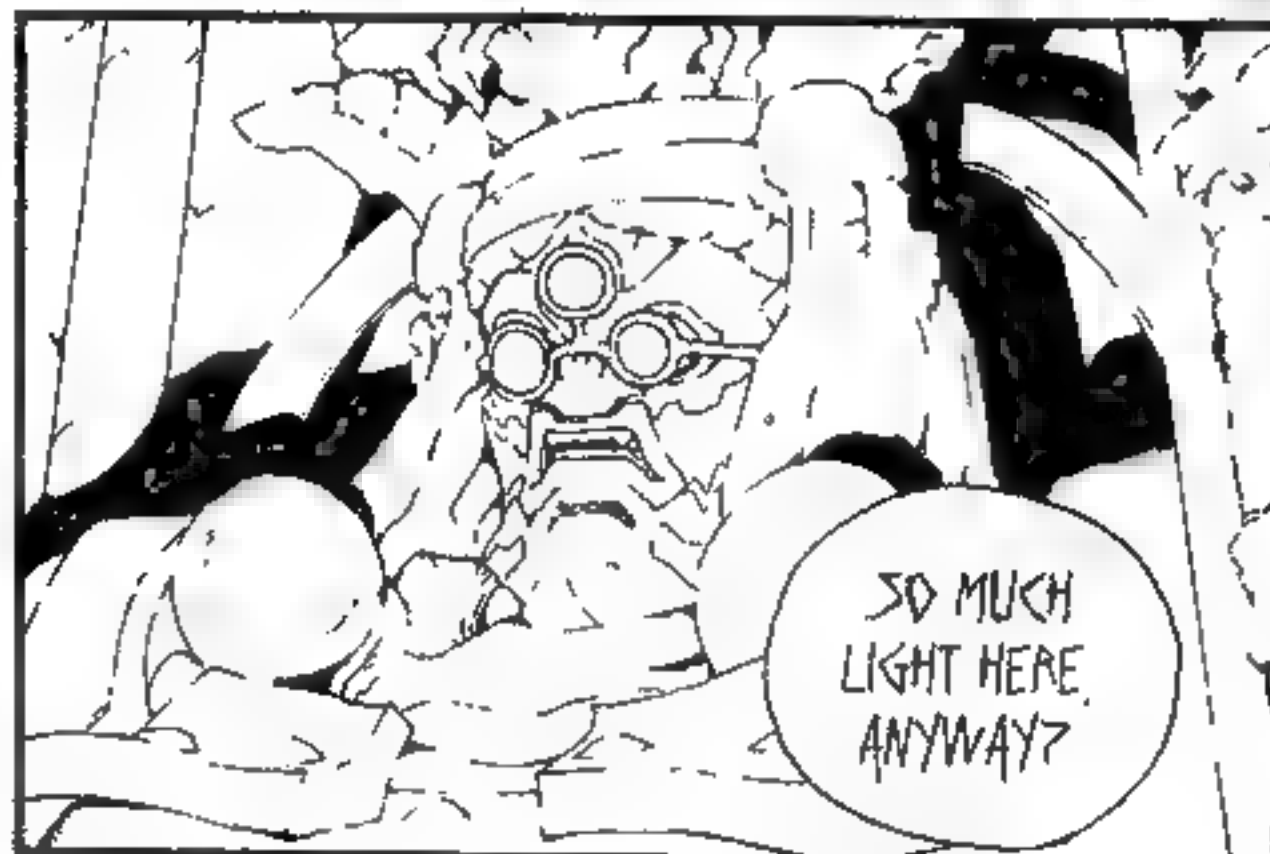


...THE
ROGUE
HEATHENS...

BINGO!!



...WHY IS THERE



SO MUCH
LIGHT HERE,
ANYWAY?

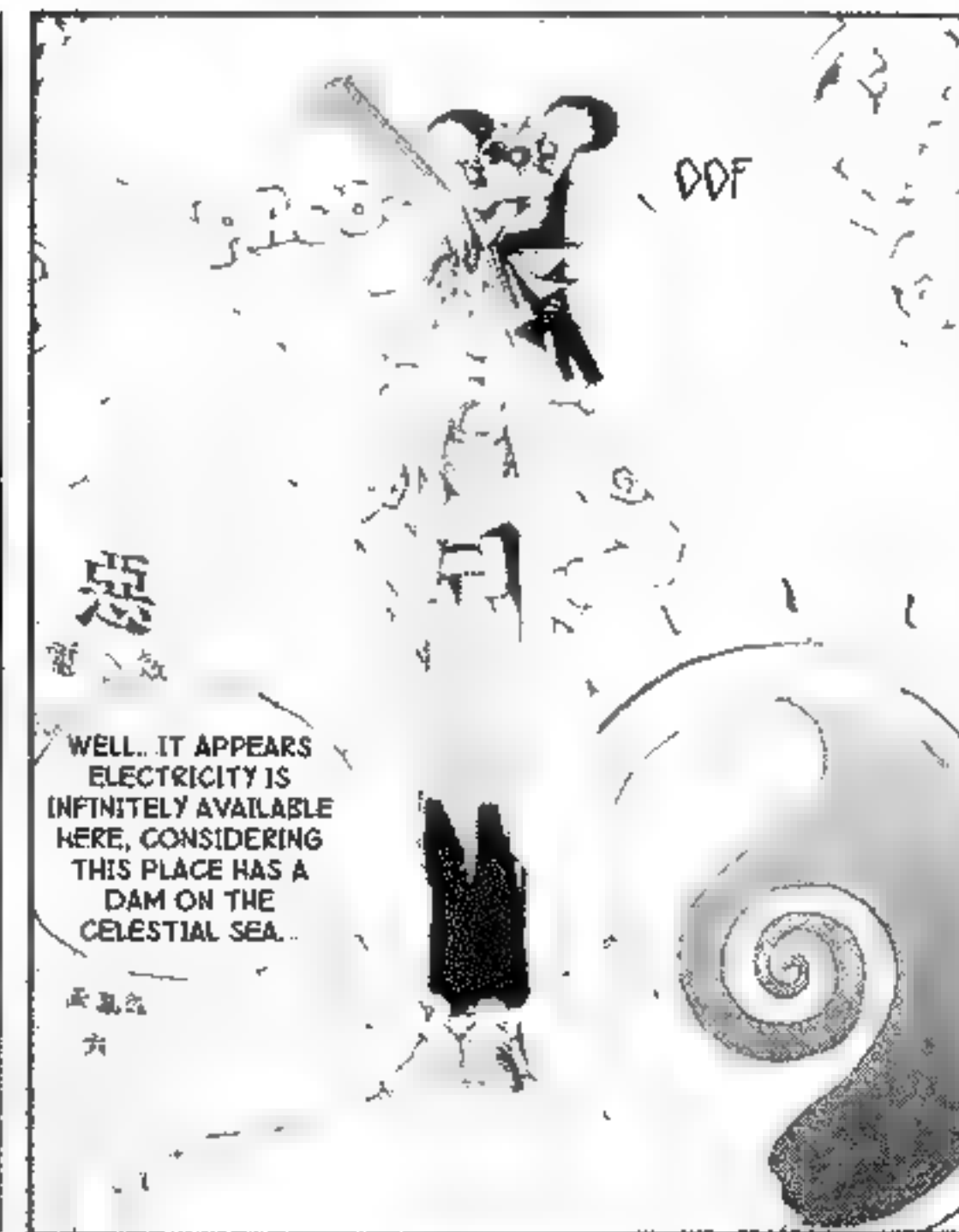
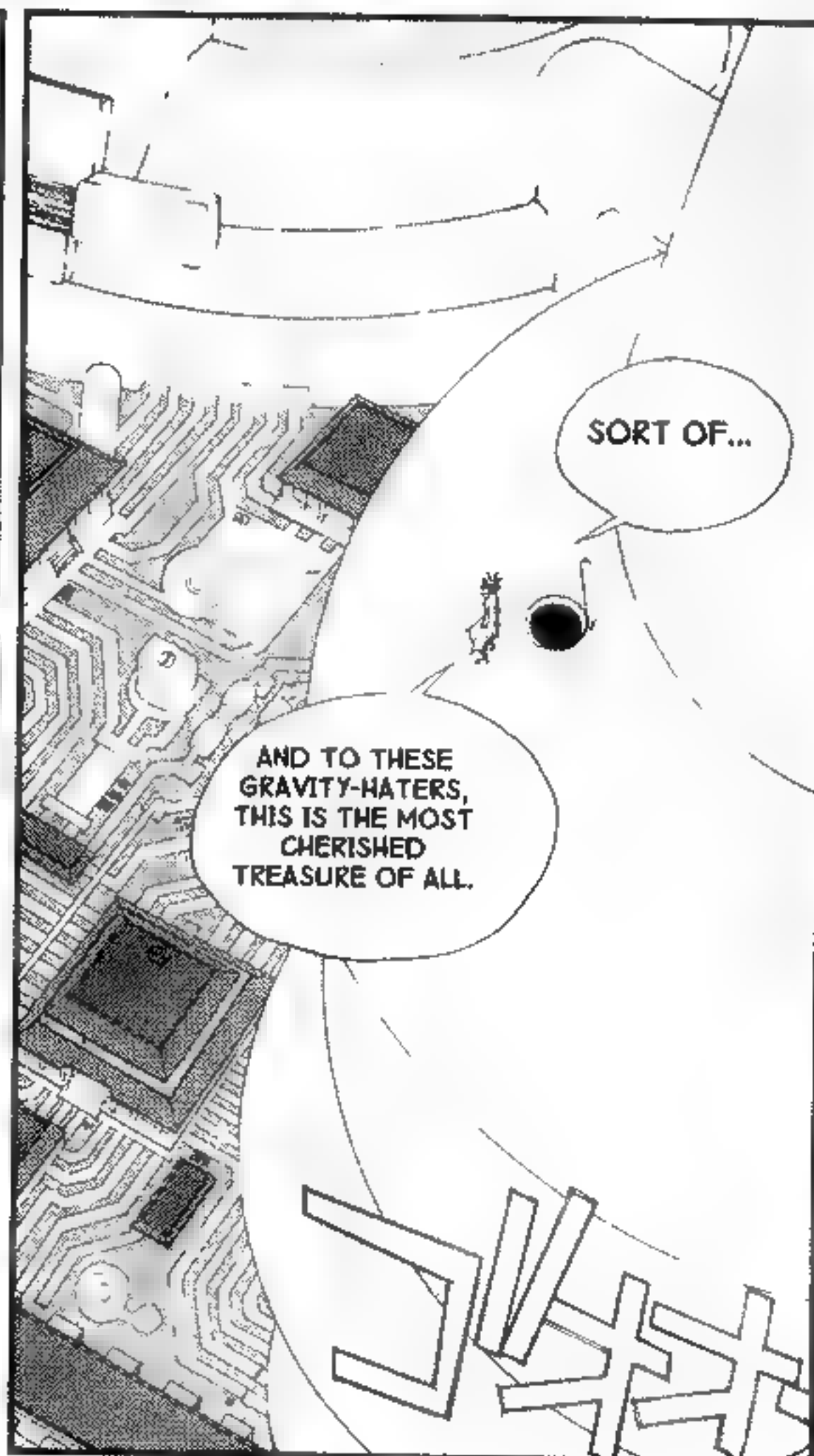
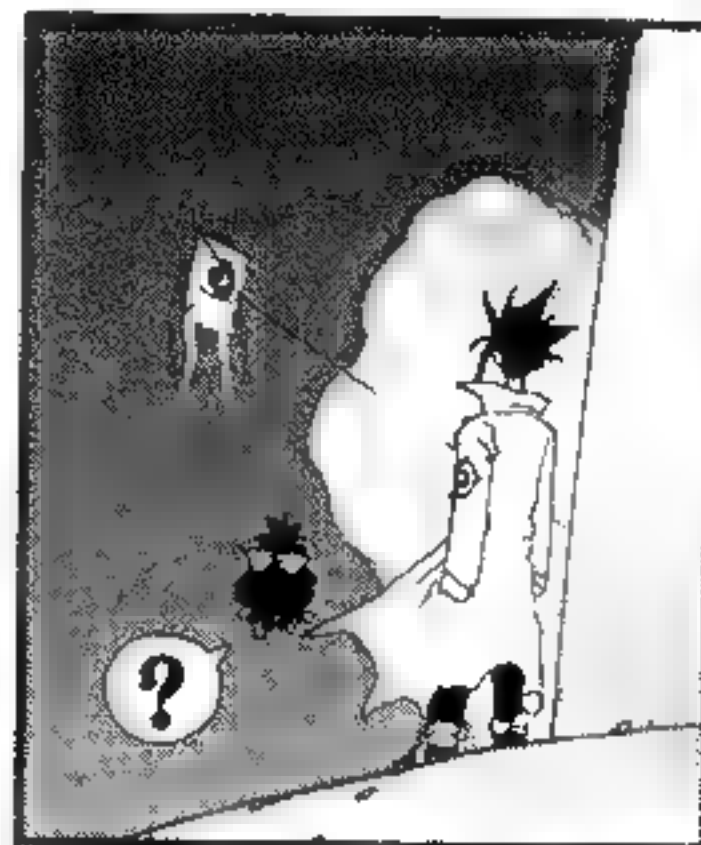


TATATATA
SPEAKING
OF WHICH...



UMPH!!
EVEN IF WE
CANNOT ALWAYS
CONDUCT OUR
CHARITY AS
WE WISH...WE
SHOULD NEVER
DOUBT IT!!

NOW, FIND
THE ROGUE
HEATHENS
AT ONCE!!





AND...SEE
THAT KITE?
A CLOUD
SCULPTOR'S
RIDING IT...

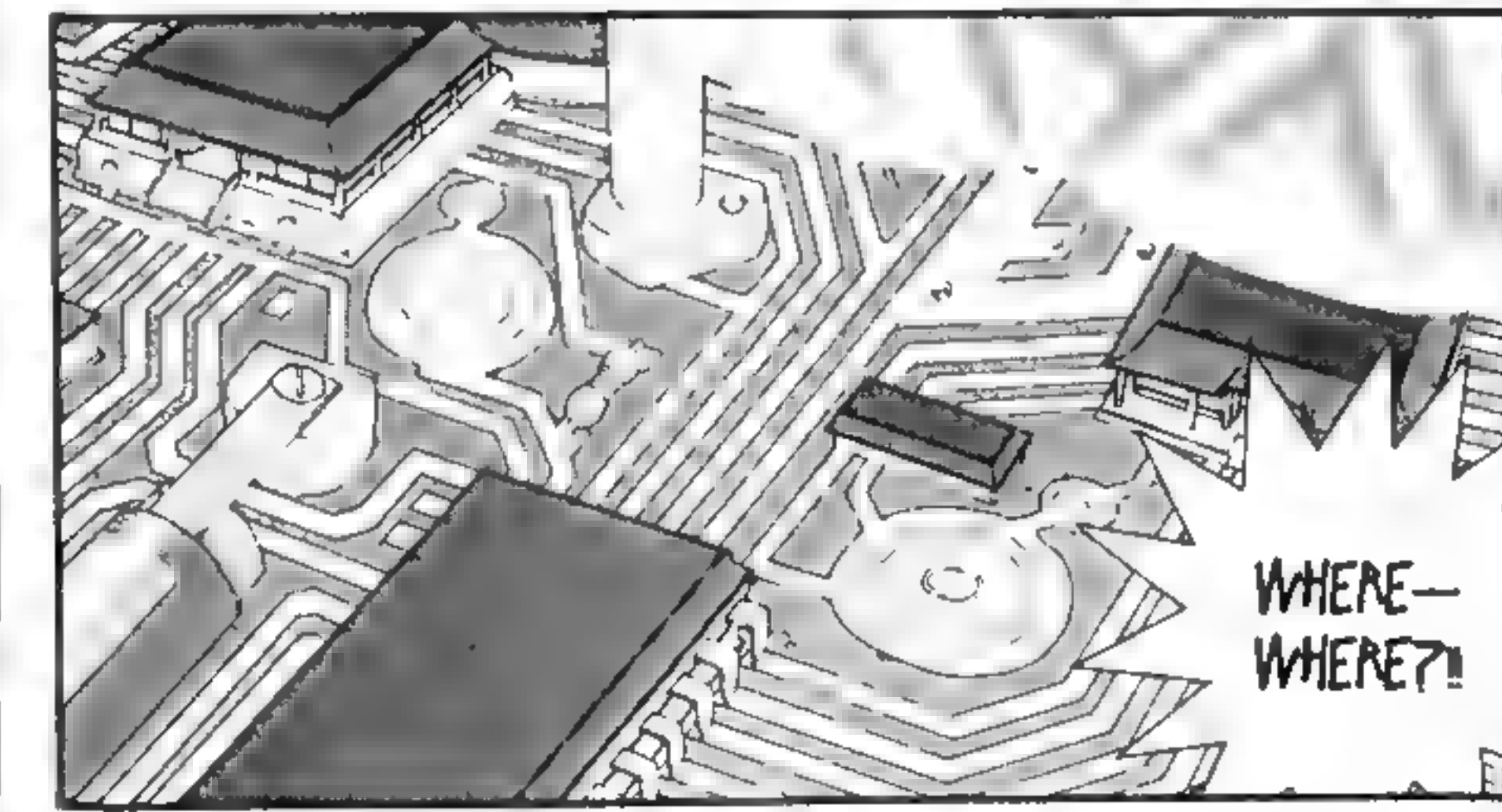
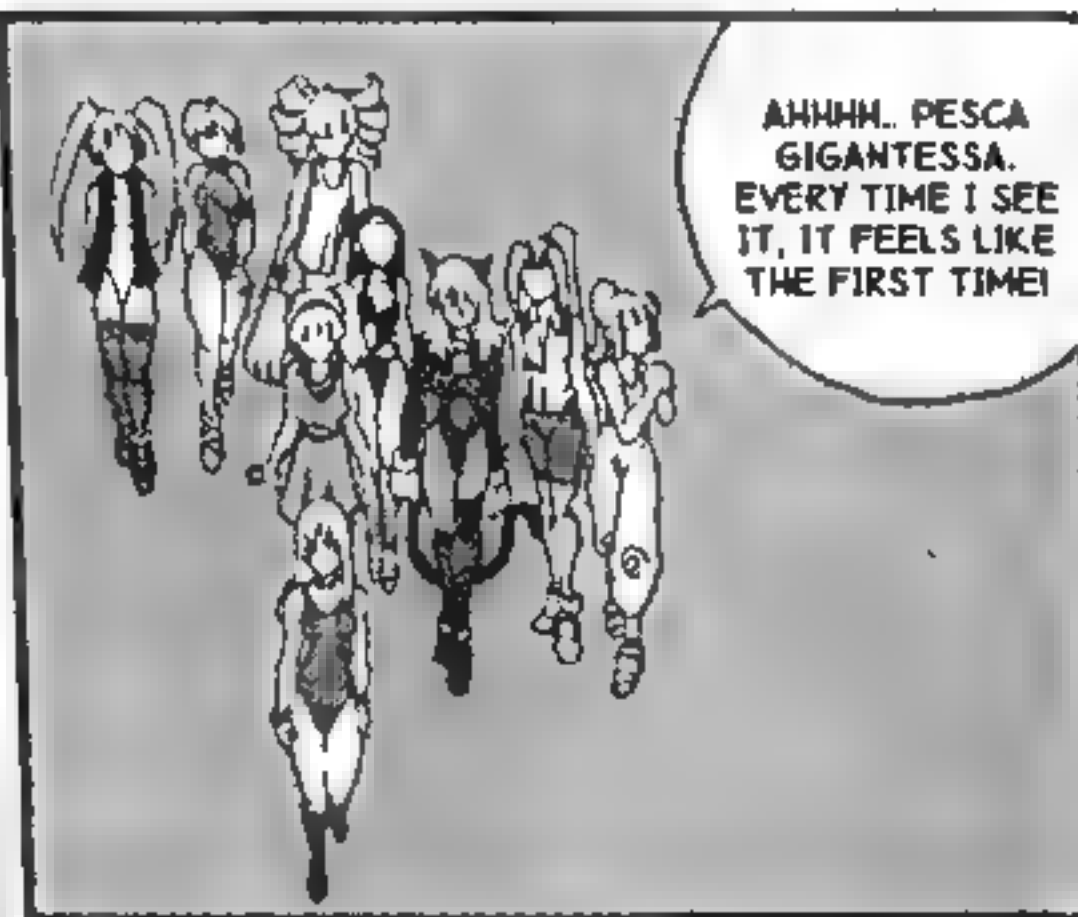


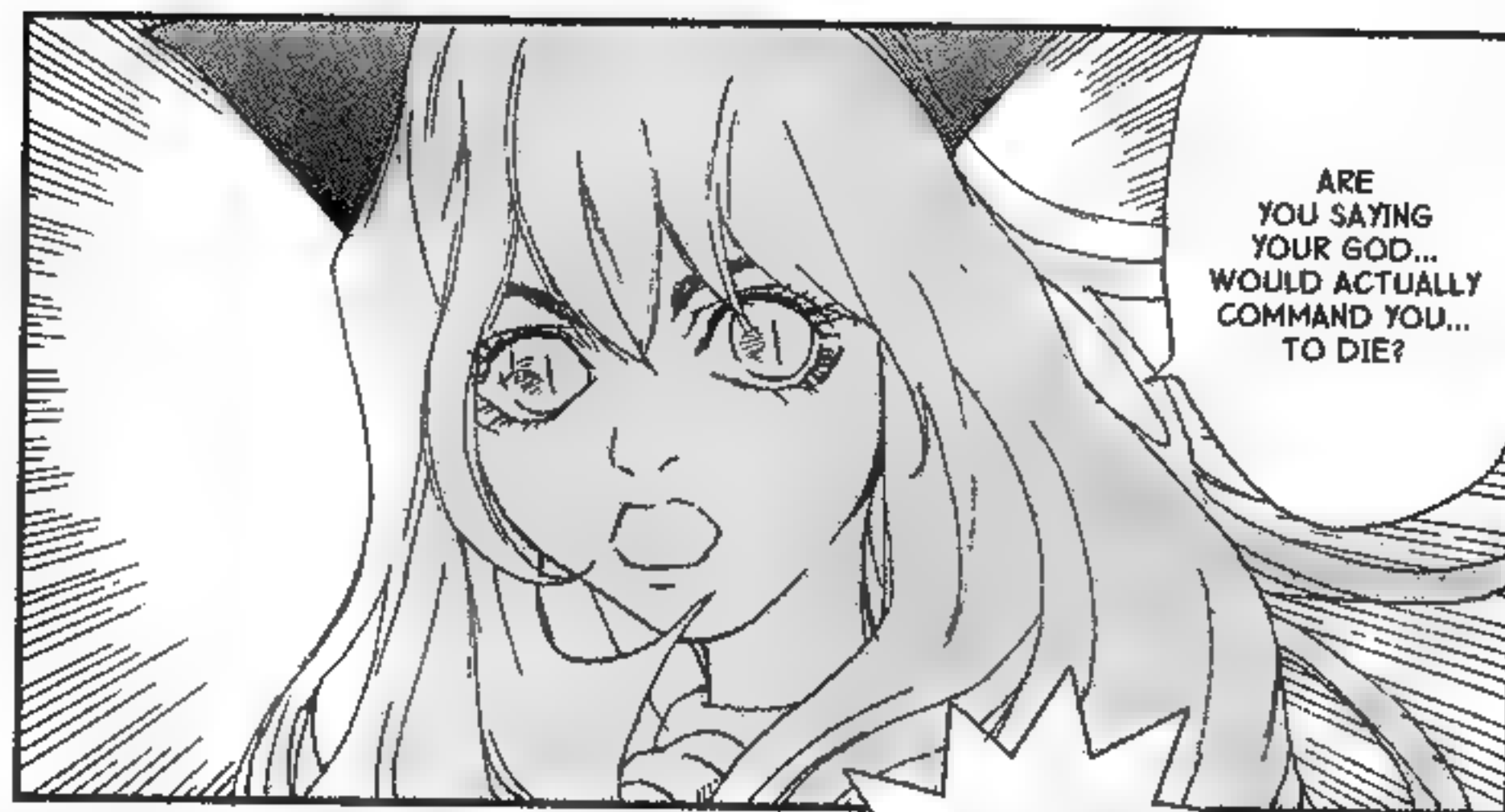
PESCA
GIGANTESSA...
A HUGE CLOUD
SCULPTURE THAT
COULD ONLY HAVE
BEEN BUILT ON THE
CELESTIAL SEA.



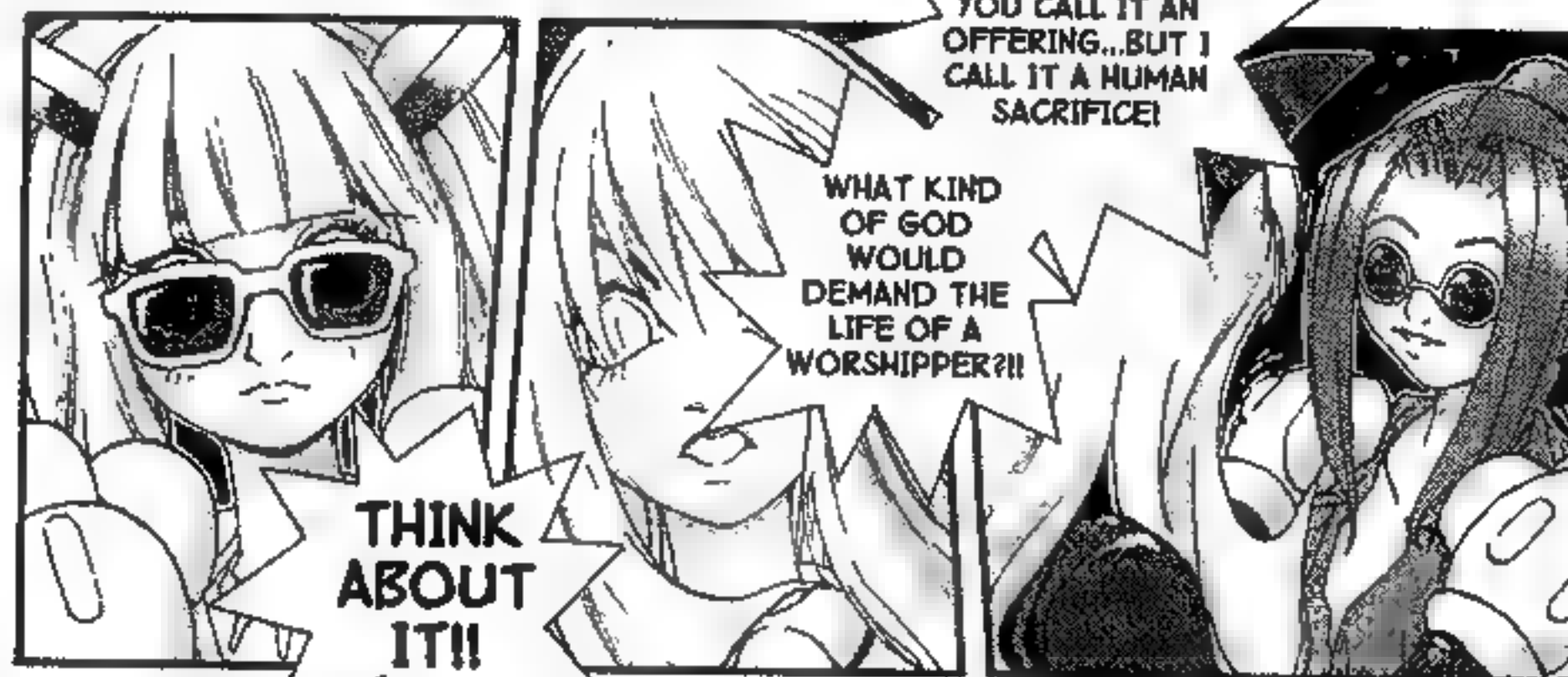
SEE? HE'S
STILL MOLDING
IT, BIT BY BIT...







ARE
YOU SAYING
YOUR GOD...
WOULD ACTUALLY
COMMAND YOU...
TO DIE?



YOU CALL IT AN
OFFERING...BUT I
CALL IT A HUMAN
SACRIFICE!

WHAT KIND
OF GOD
WOULD
DEMAND THE
LIFE OF A
WORSHIPPER?!!

THINK
ABOUT
IT!!



SISTER...



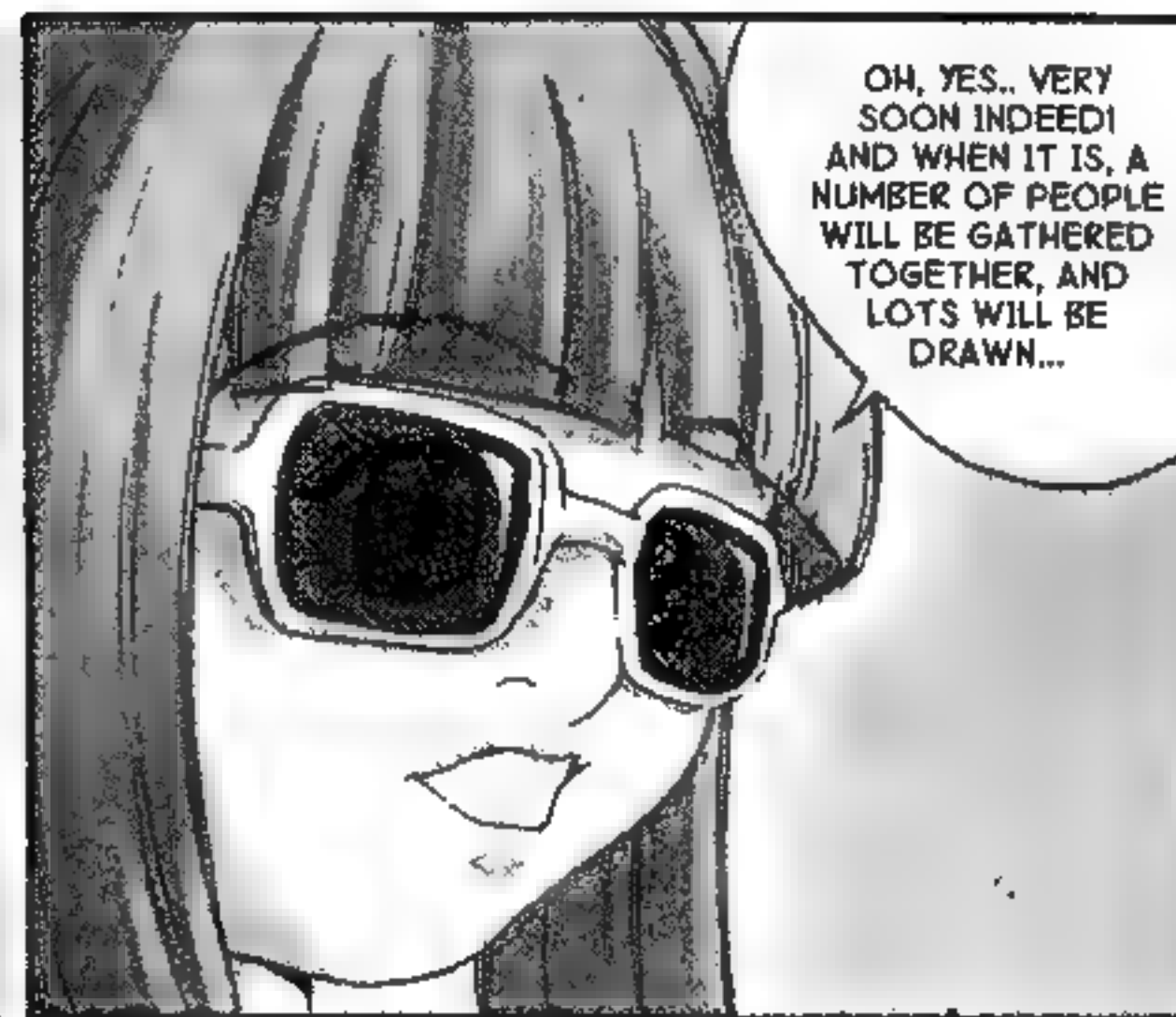
...I...
WELL...



HOW COULD A YOUNG
GIRL LIKE YOU--
WITH HER ENTIRE
LIFE AHEAD OF HER--
CHOOSE DEATH
OVER LIFE SO
EASILY?!



LOTS...?
WHAT DO
YOU MEAN,
LOTS?



OH, YES.. VERY
SOON INDEED!
AND WHEN IT IS, A
NUMBER OF PEOPLE
WILL BE GATHERED
TOGETHER, AND
LOTS WILL BE
DRAWN...



FOR US,
SILLY!

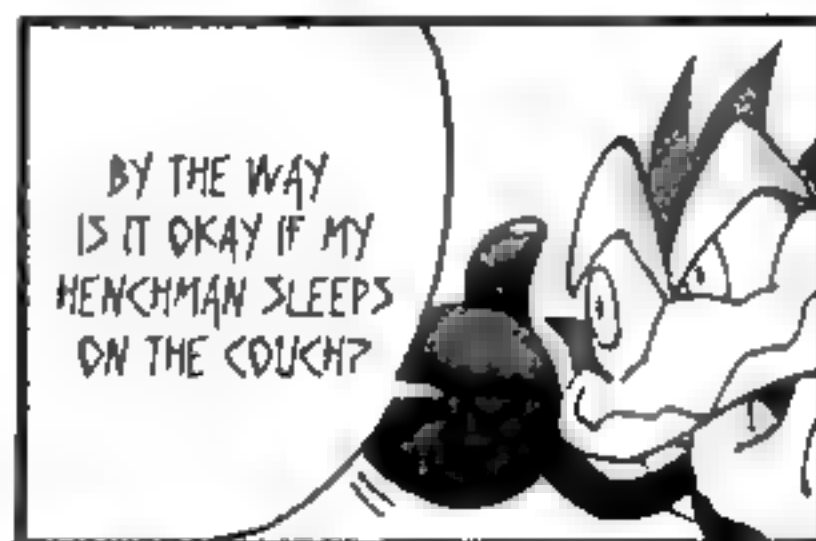
OH MY,
SISTER...YOU
ARE JOKING,
AREN'T YOU?!



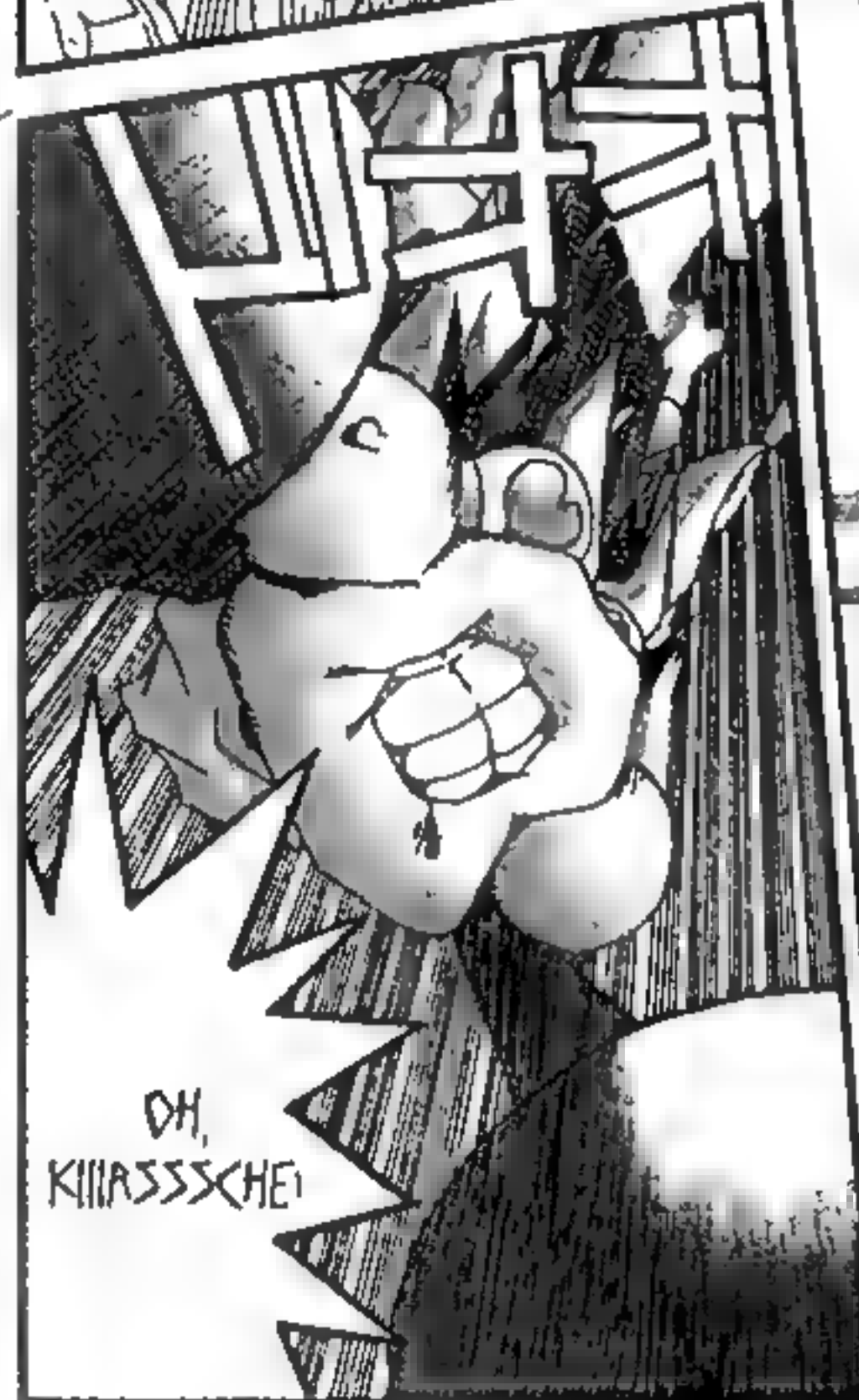
OH.



YOU KNOW...TO
DECIDE WHO WILL
BE OFFERED TO
THE GIGANTESSAI



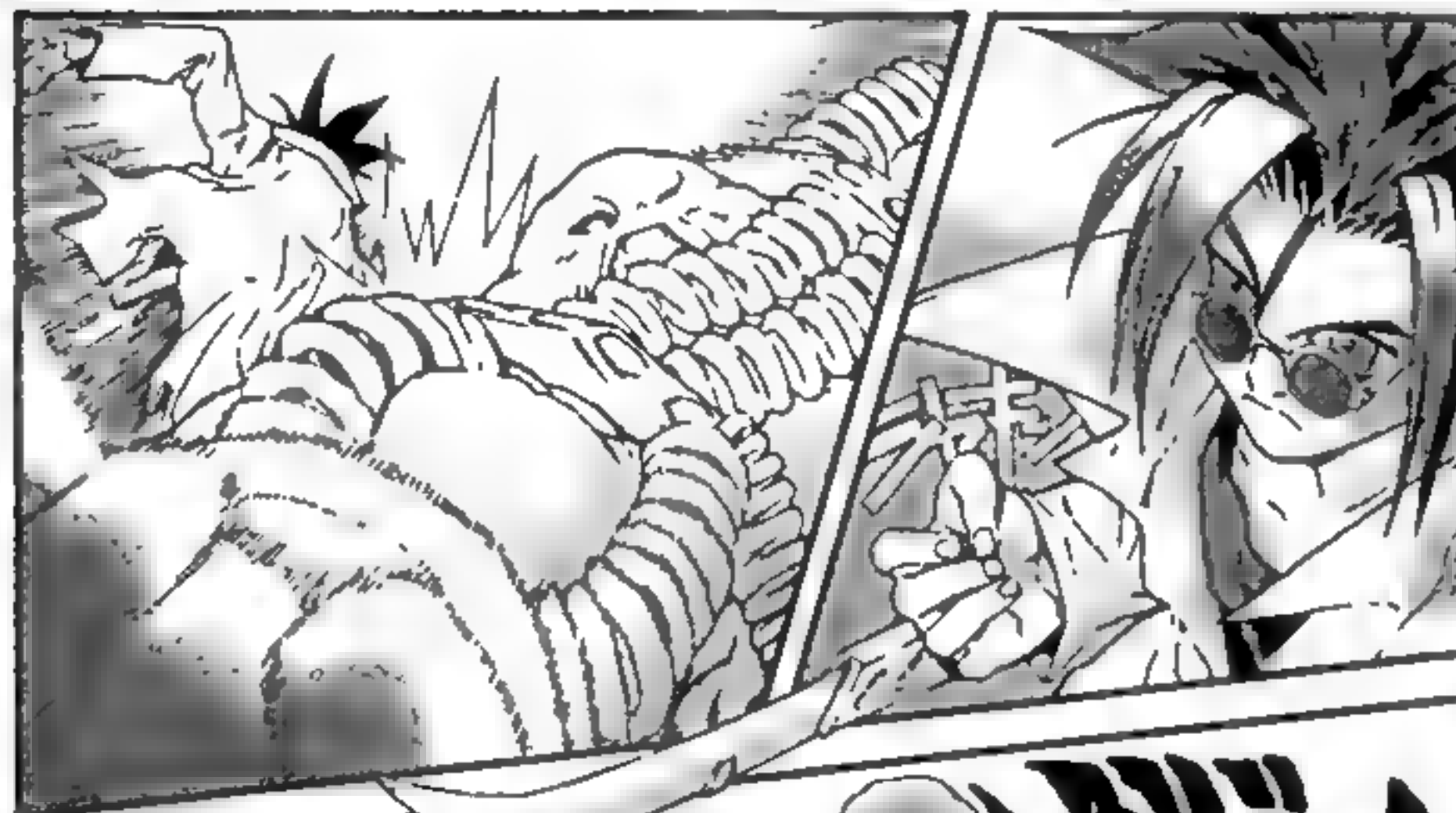
HERE, KITTY
KITTY KITTY!!!



...I PLAN
TO DIE...
SO I CAN
RETURN TO
THE PLACE
OF MY BIRTH.
AS I WAS
MEANT
TO.







DON'T
WORRY, KIR...
I FORECAST A ZERO
PERCENT CHANCE
OF SURRENDER!!





PLEASE,
GOD...PICK
ME...PICK
ME...!

KAKAKA



GOD...
FROM HEAD TO
TOENAILS...THIS
BODY WILL BE
YOURS...!

KAKAKA

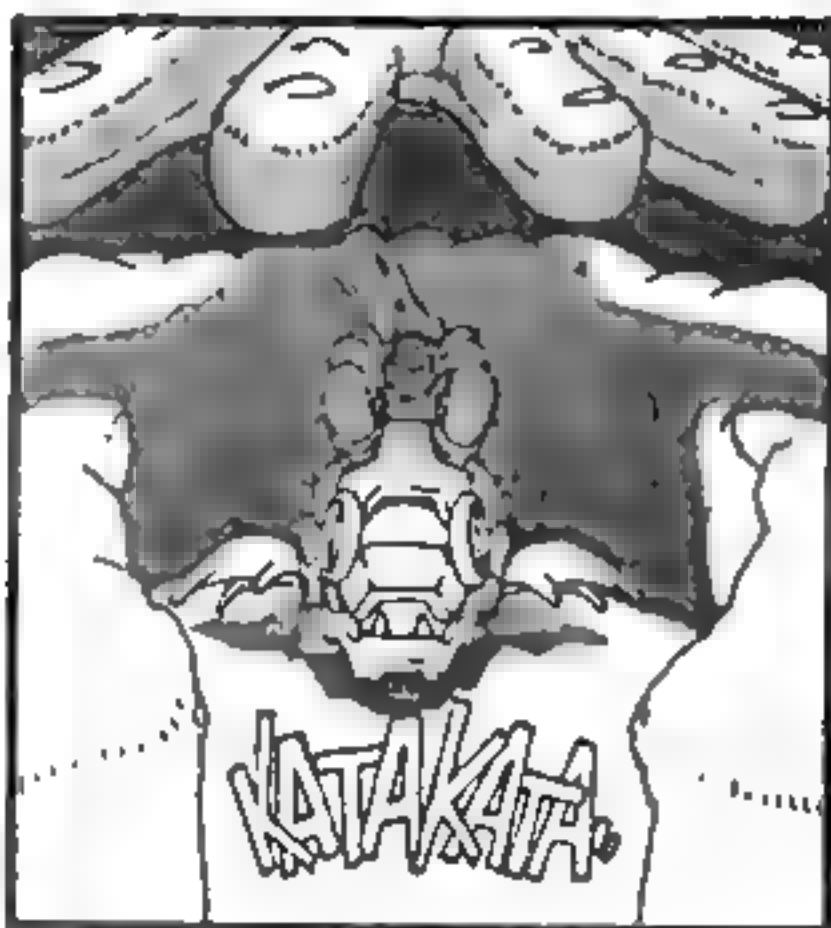


I WILL
NOT LET
EVEN ONE
OF THESE
GIRLS DIE...
I SWEAR
IT!

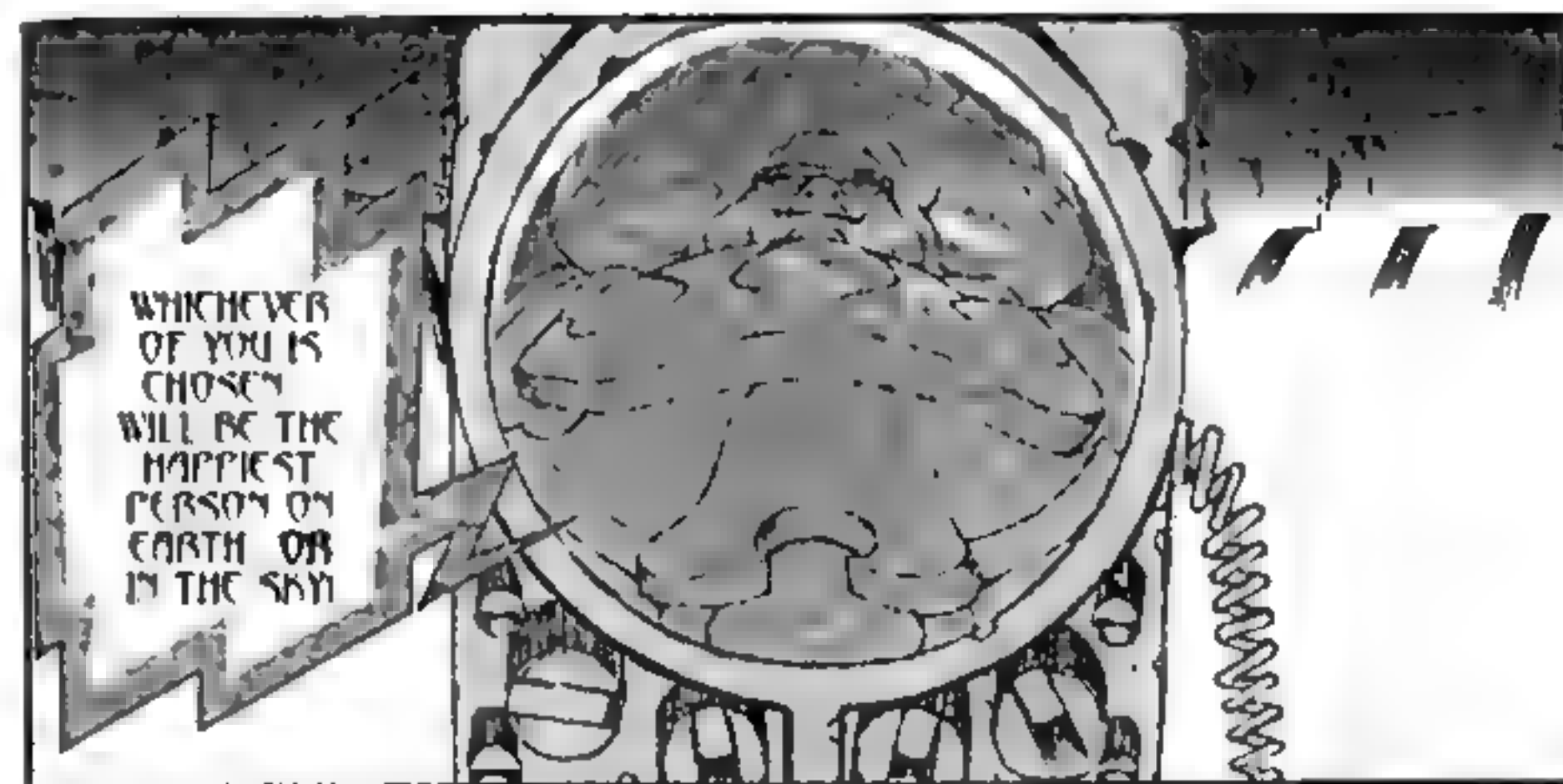
KAKAKA



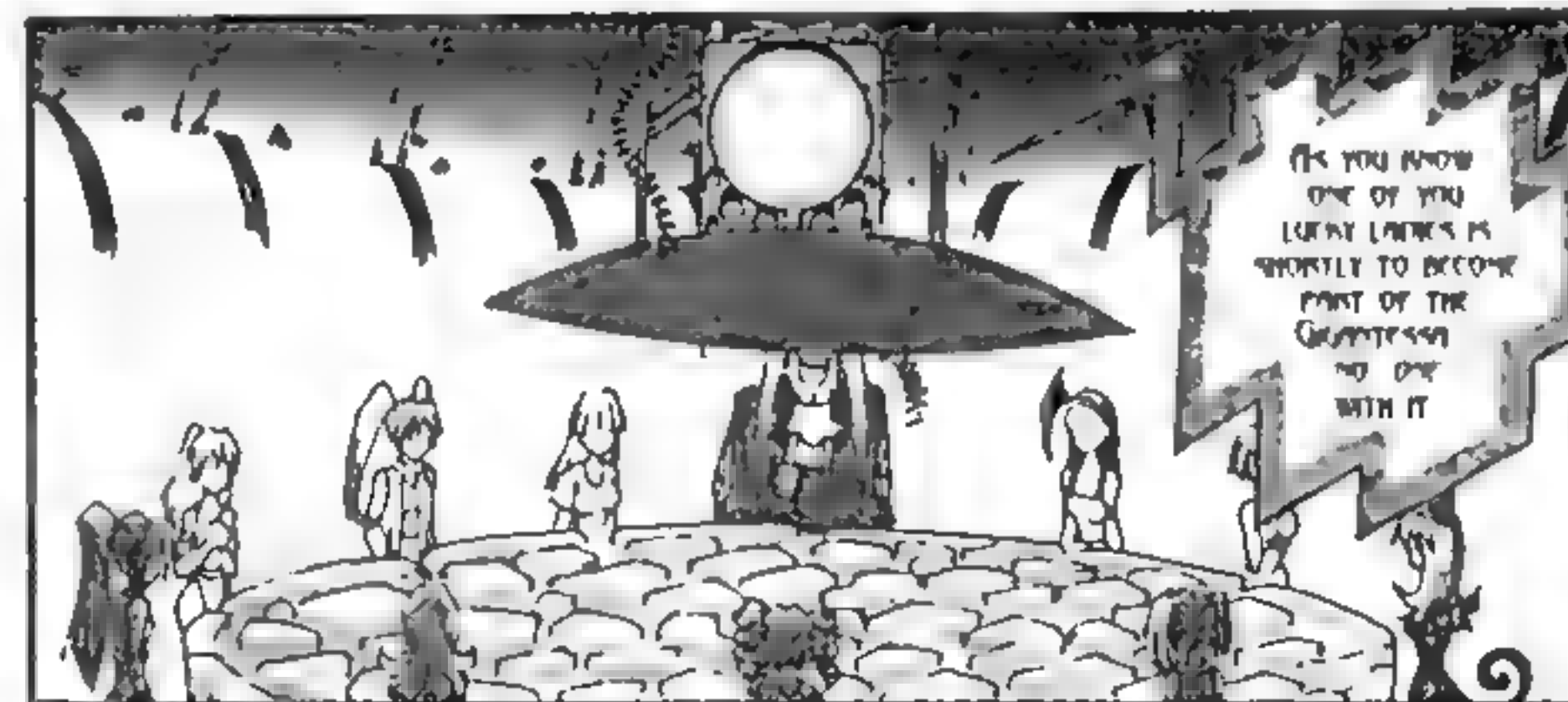
THE CHOICE
SHALL BE LEFT TO
GOD, AND YOU
SHALL OBEY HIS
DECREE.



KATAKATA



WHICHEVER
OF YOU IS
CHOSEN
WILL BE THE
HAPPIEST
PERSON ON
EARTH OR
IN THE SKY



AS YOU KNOW
ONE OF YOU
Lucky LUCK'S IS
SHORTLY TO BECOME
PART OF THE
GRANDSTON
AND ONE
WITH IT

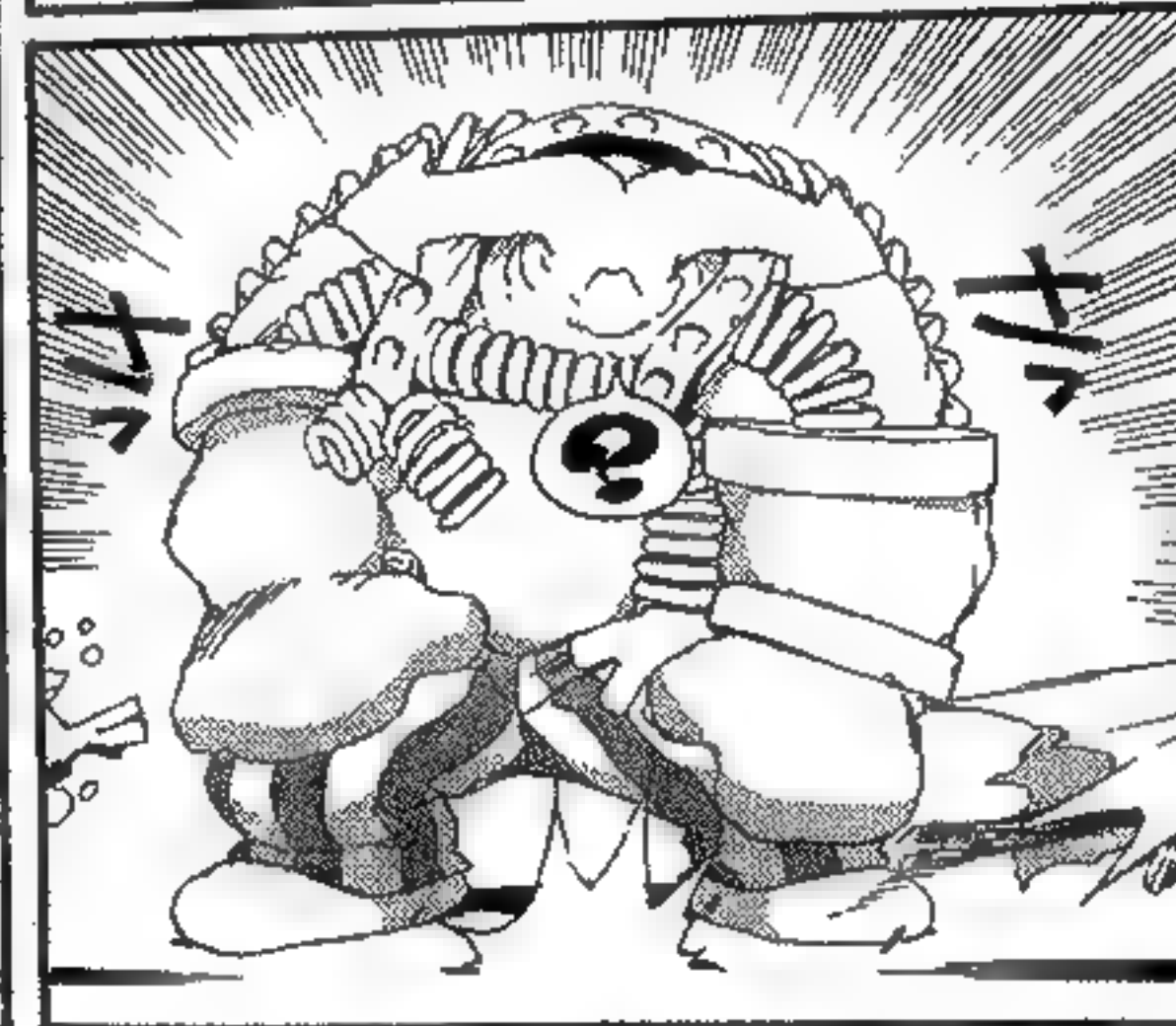
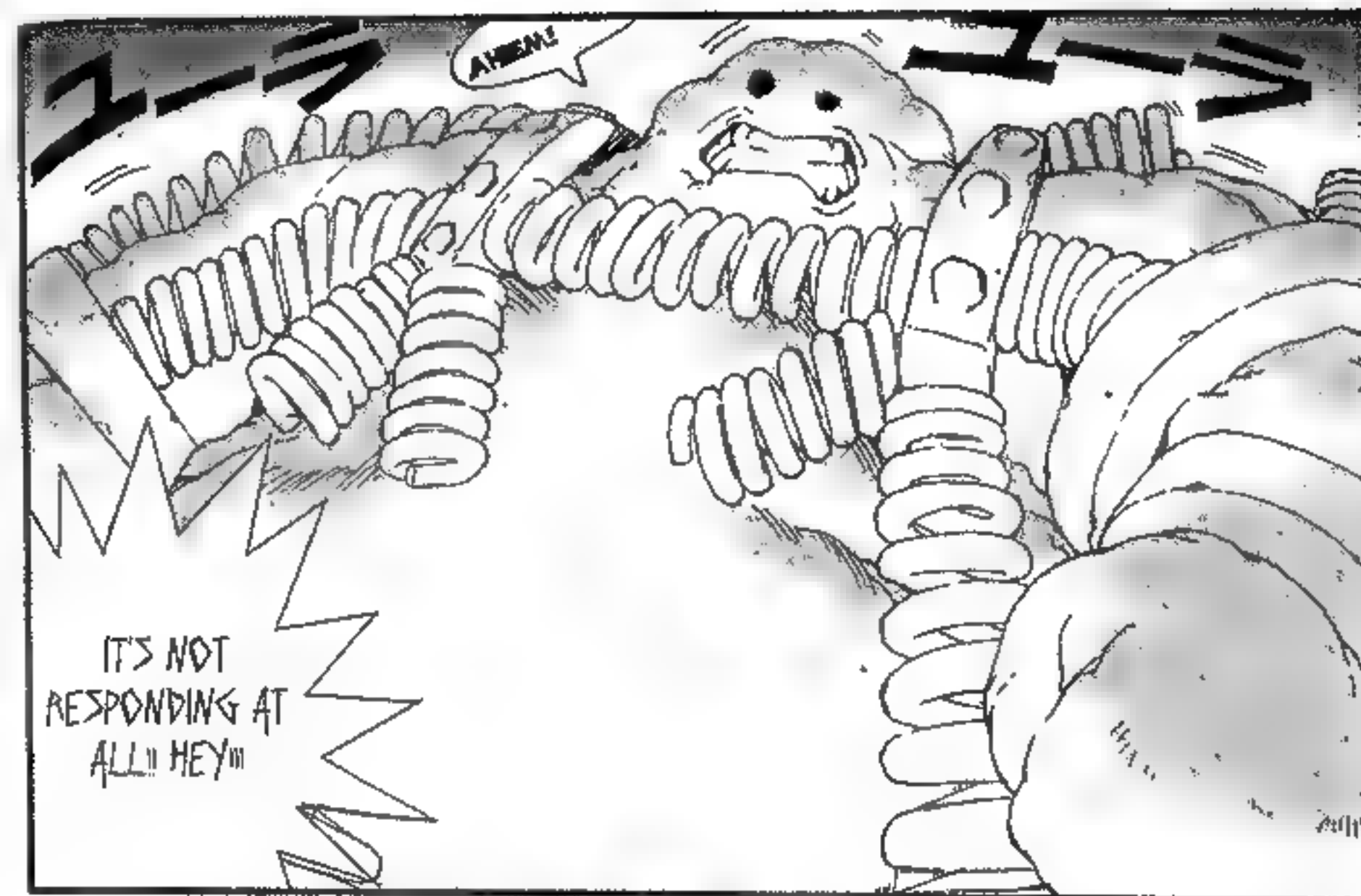


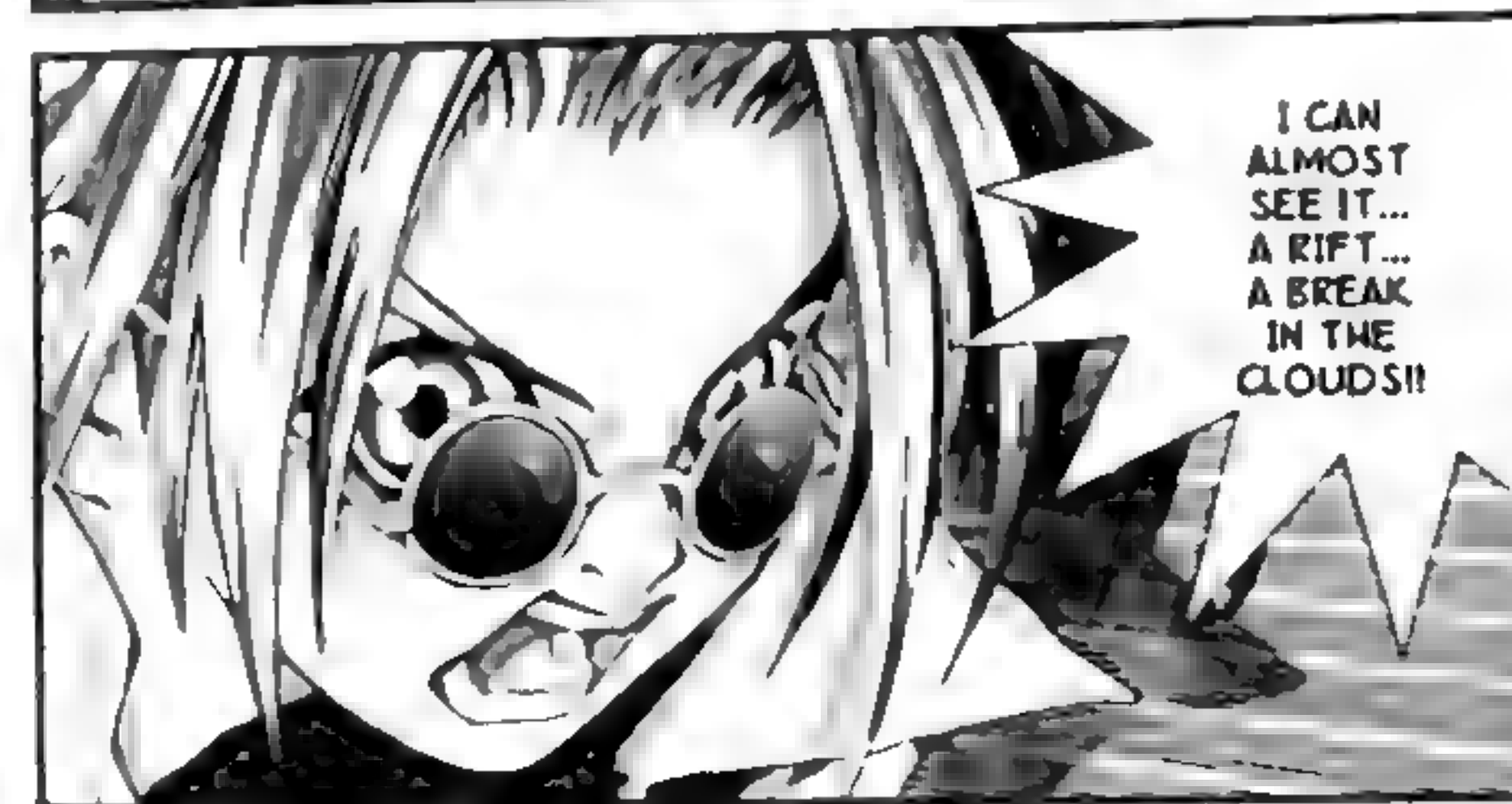
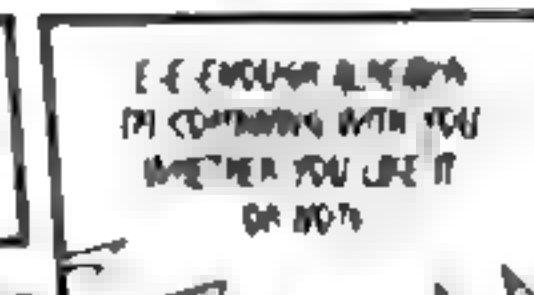
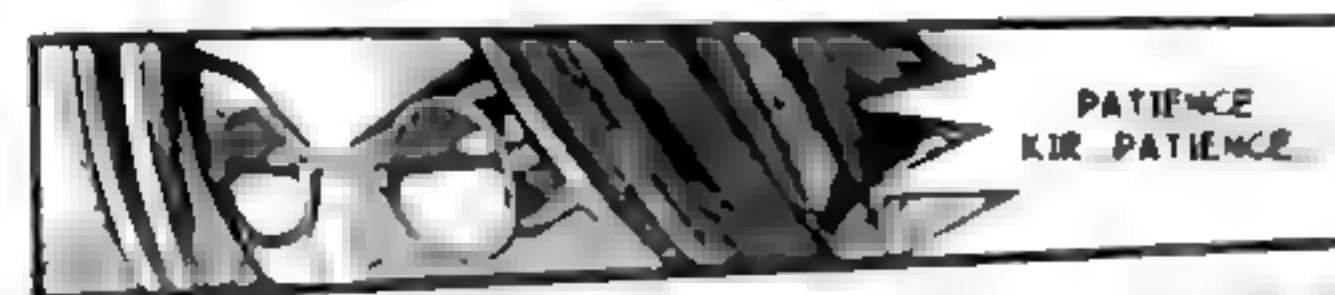
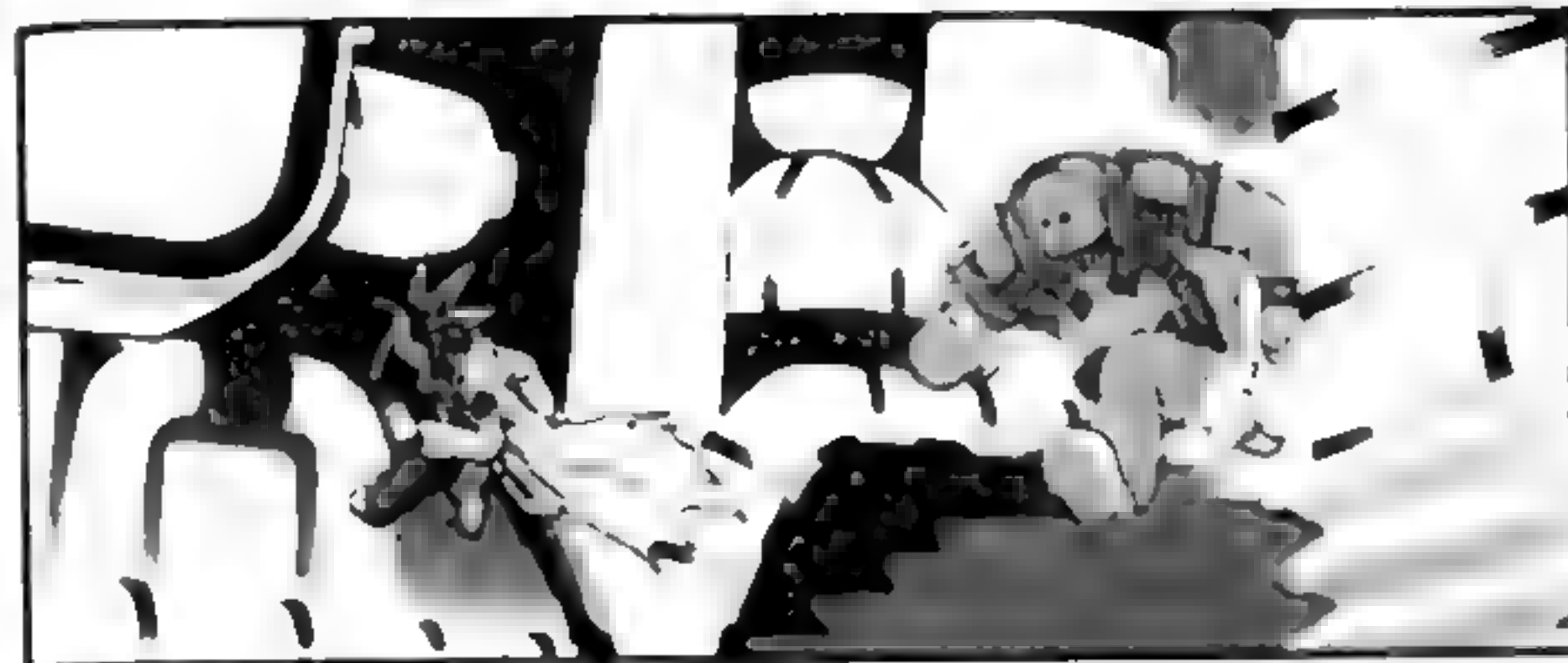
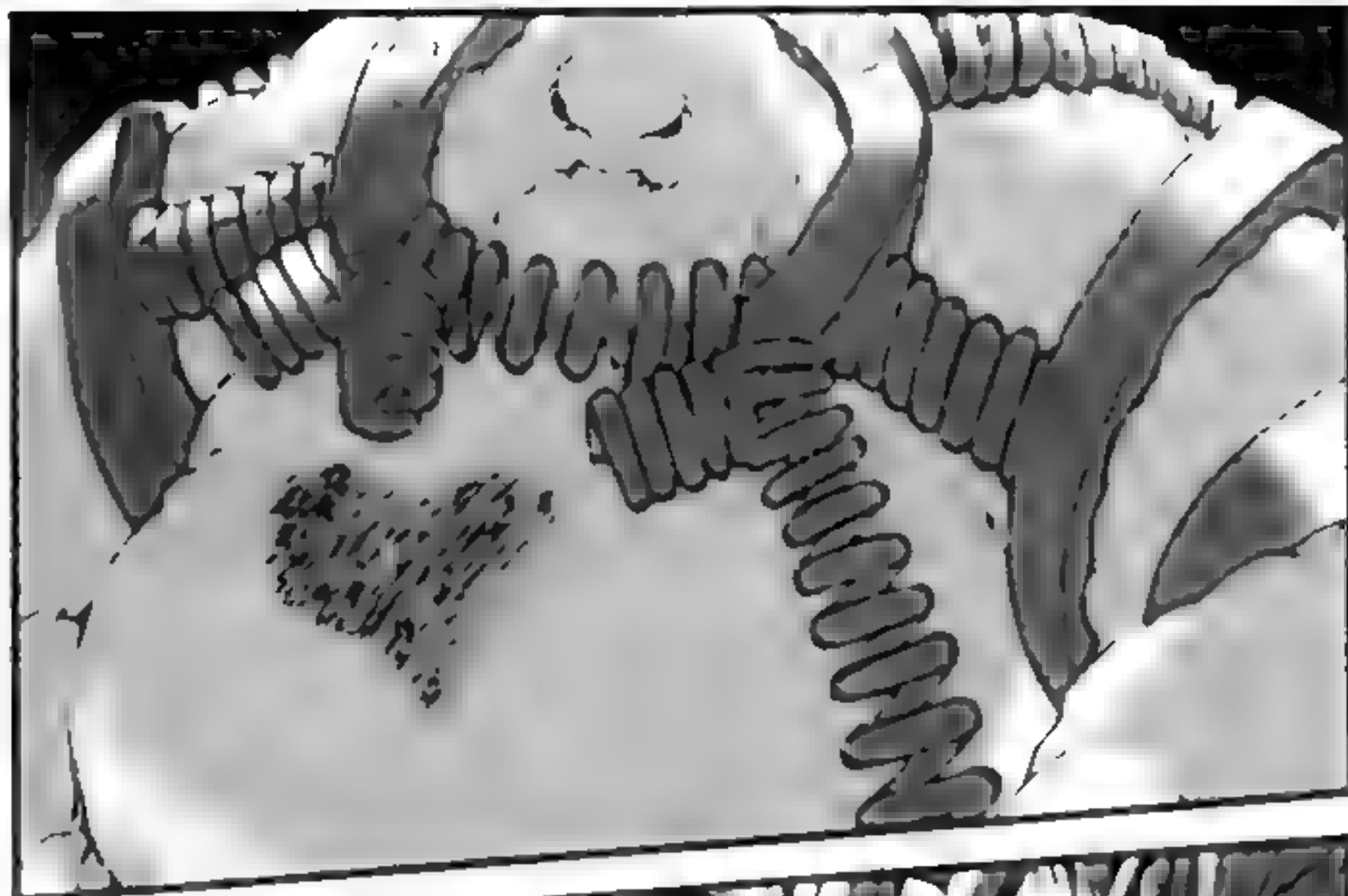
TO DECIDE
WHICH OF YOU WILL
BE APPOINTED THIS
HONOR WE SHALL NOW
HOLD OUR RITUAL
OF LOTS.

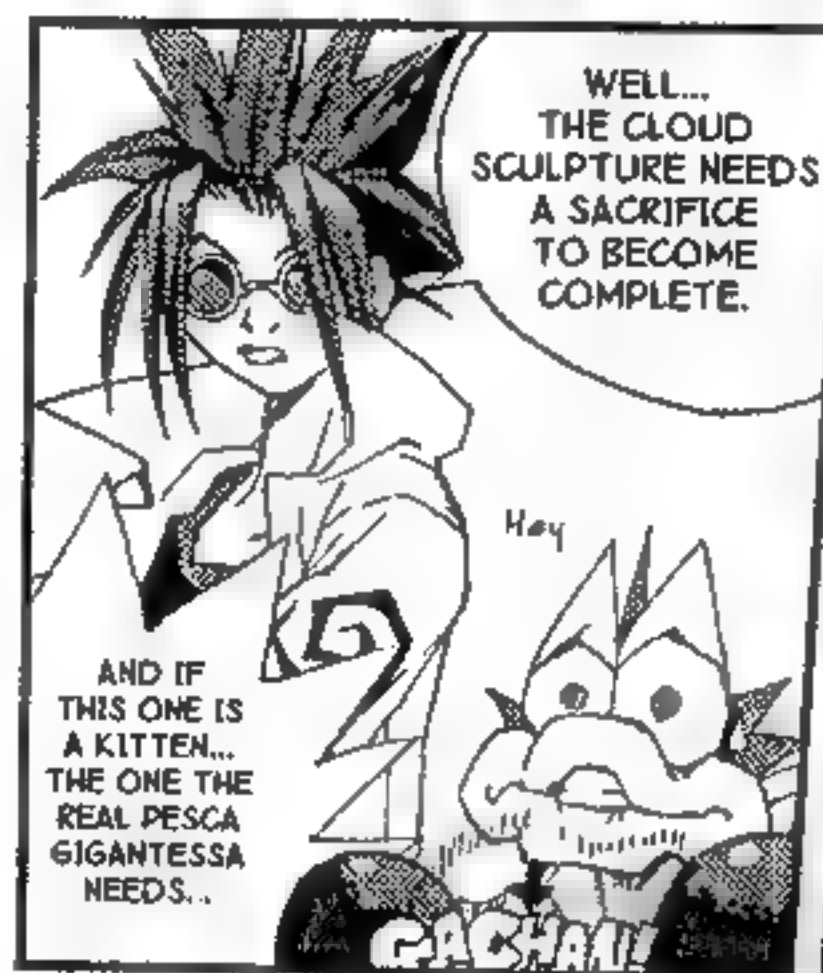
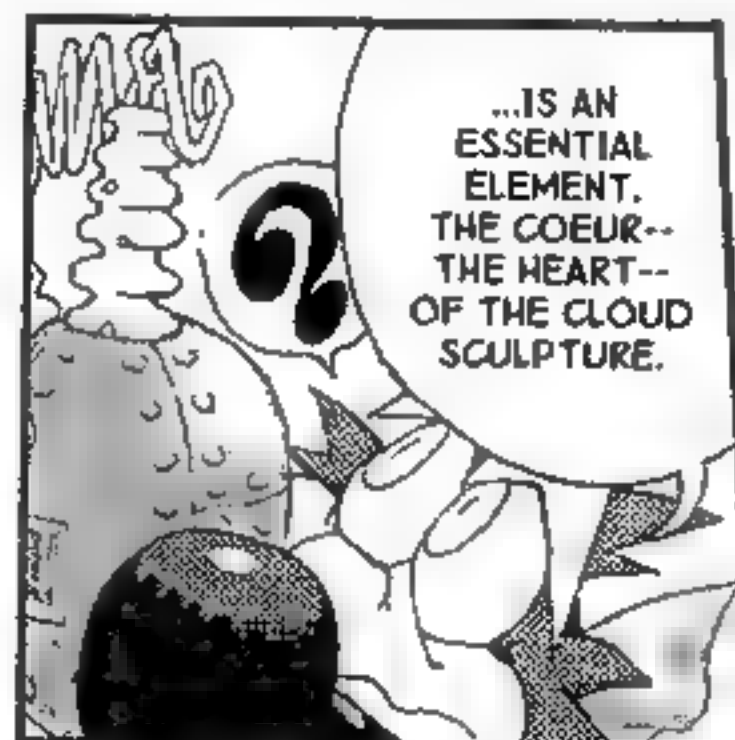
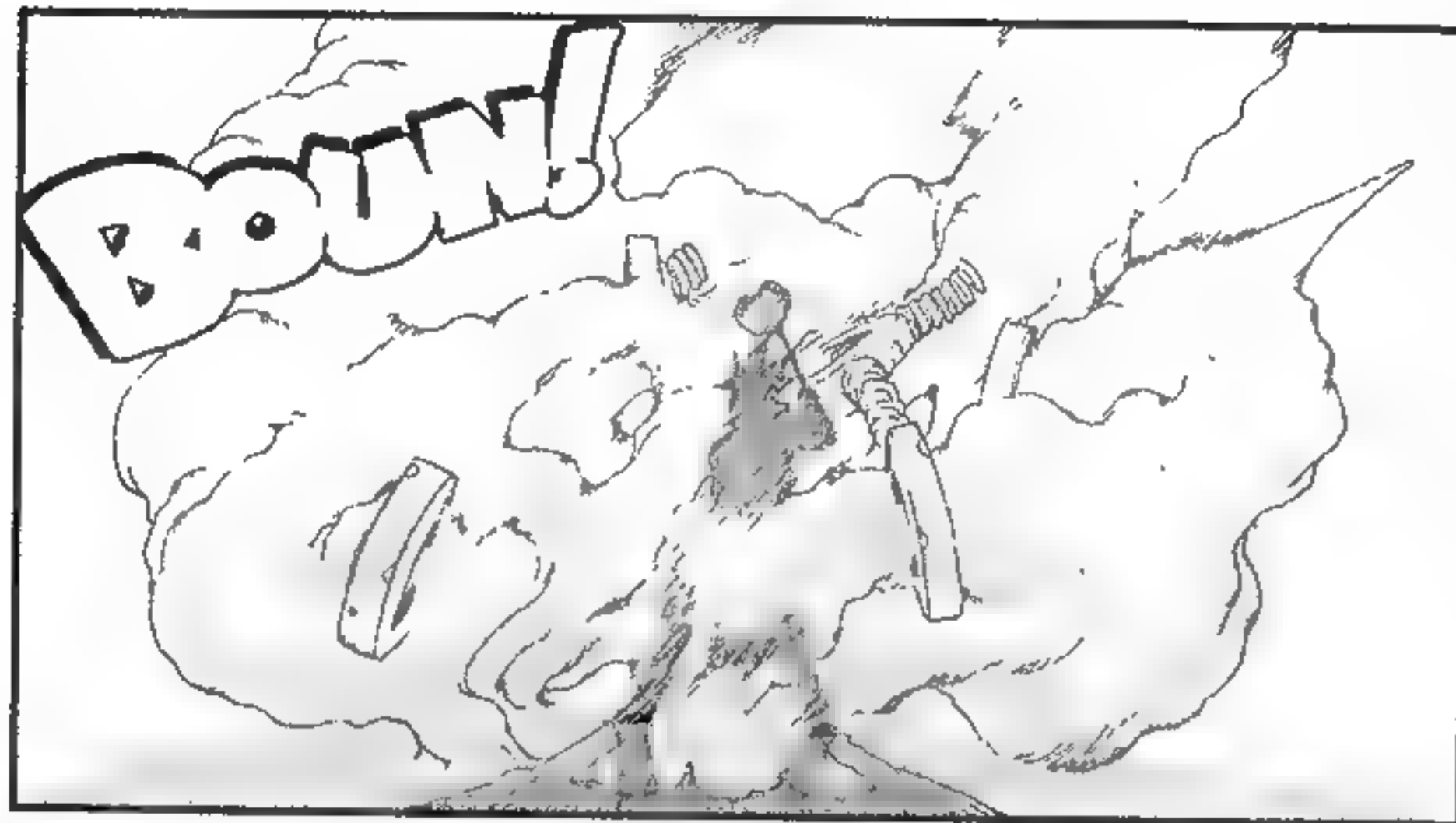


IF I
DON'T SAVE
EVERY-
ONE
FIRST!



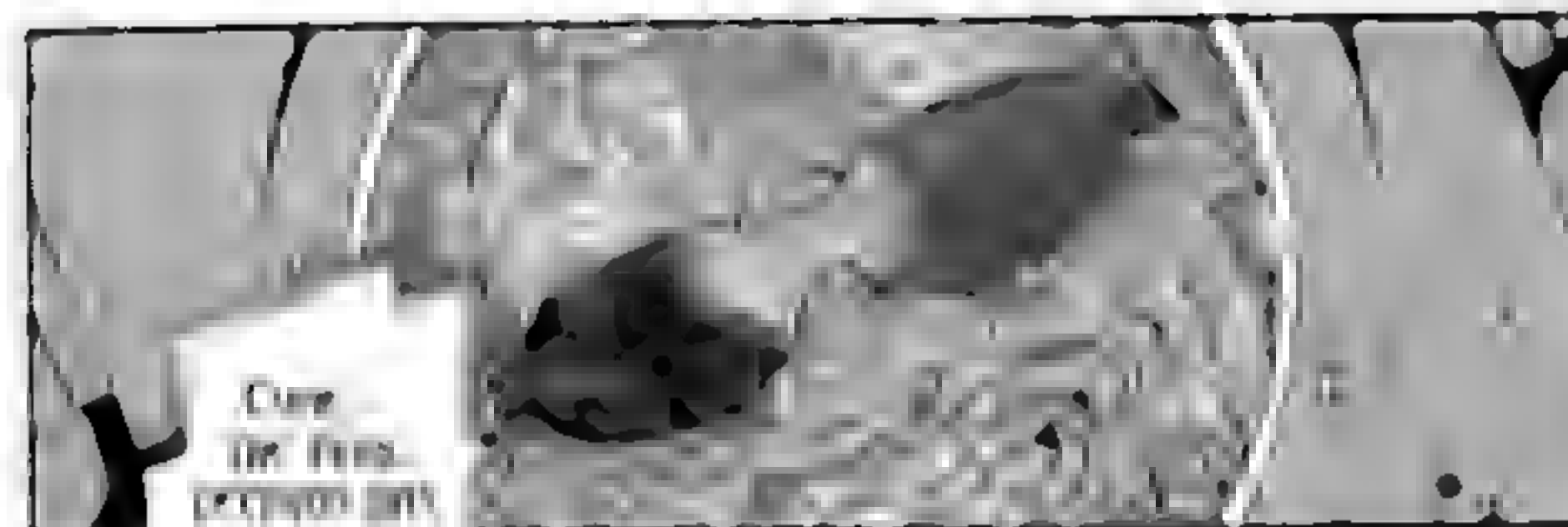




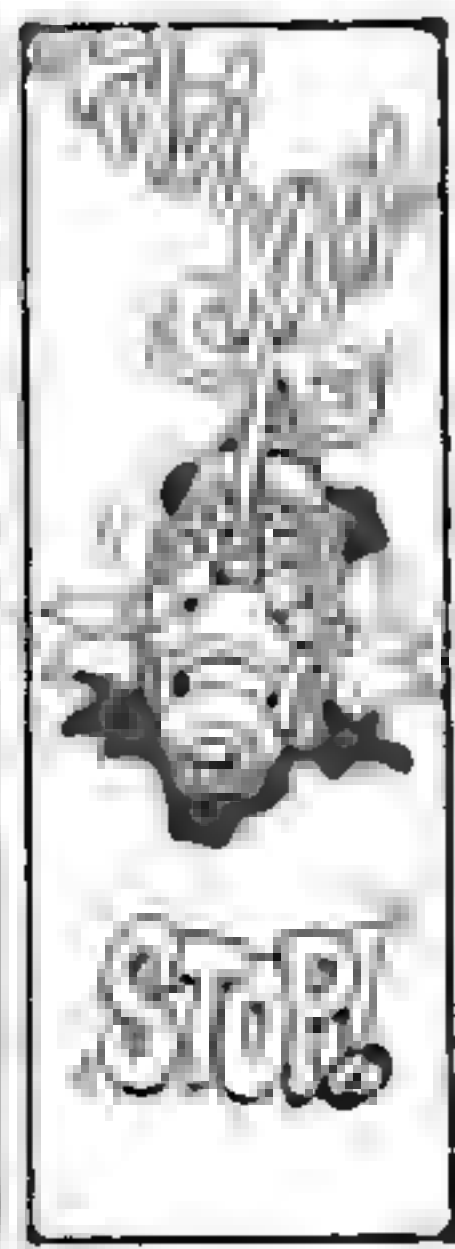




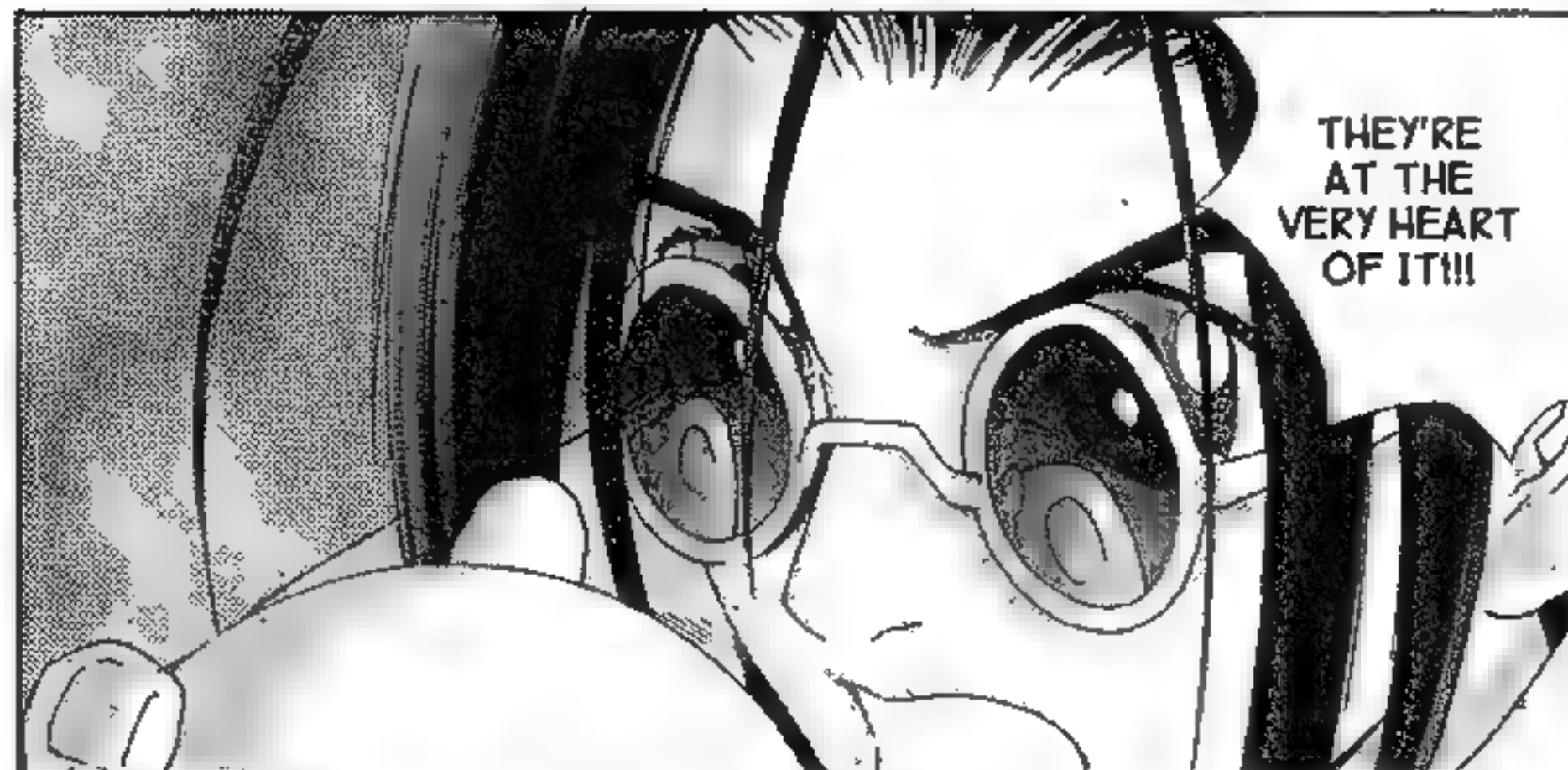
WILL CERTAINLY
BE A FULFILLMENT



One
the first
of the first
of the first



STOP!



THEY'RE
AT THE
VERY HEART
OF IT!!!



COULD BE,
ESPECIALLY
CONSIDER-
ING...

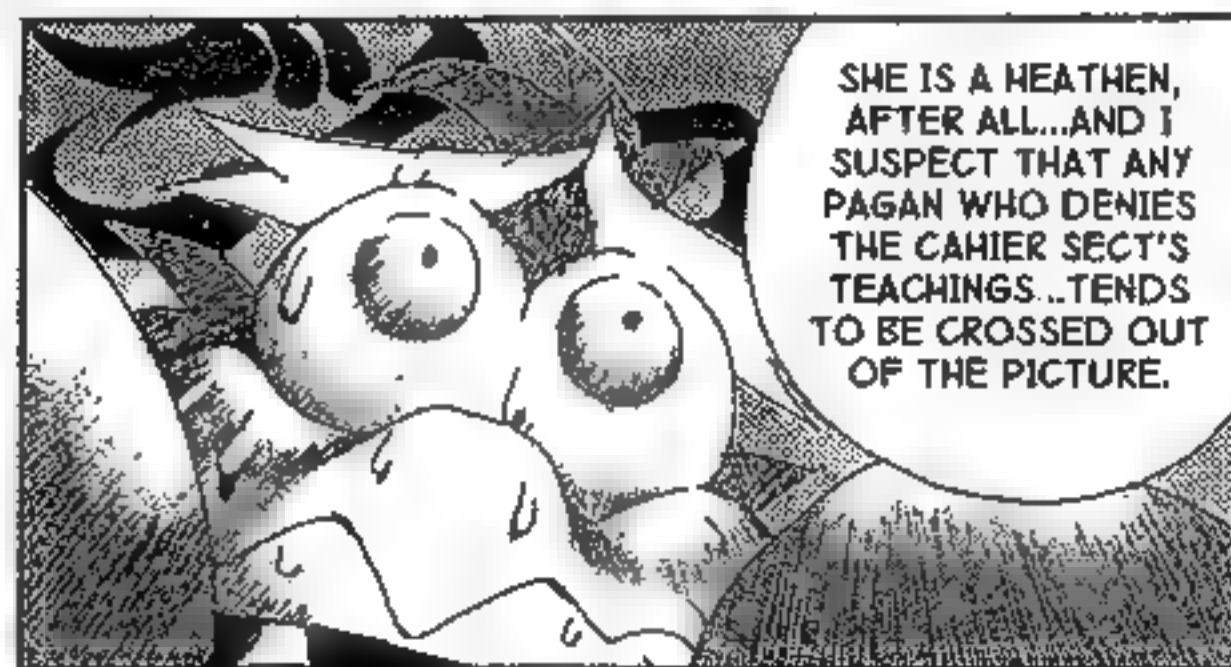
WHAT ABOUT
KIRSCH, JING?
YOU THINK THE
KITTY MIGHT BE A
SACRIFICE, TOO?

NO, I SIMPLY REFUSE
TO BELIEVE GOD
WOULD EVER RAISE A
HAND TO A FEMALE!



... SHE'S
THE MOST
DANGEROUS
ONE.

CRUNCH



SHE IS A HEATHEN,
AFTER ALL...AND I
SUSPECT THAT ANY
PAGAN WHO DENIES
THE CAHIER SECT'S
TEACHINGS...TENDS
TO BE CROSSED OUT
OF THE PICTURE.



YOU MEAN THE
PERSON SUPPOS-
EDLY ACHIEVES
NIRVANA WHILE
STILL ALIVE?



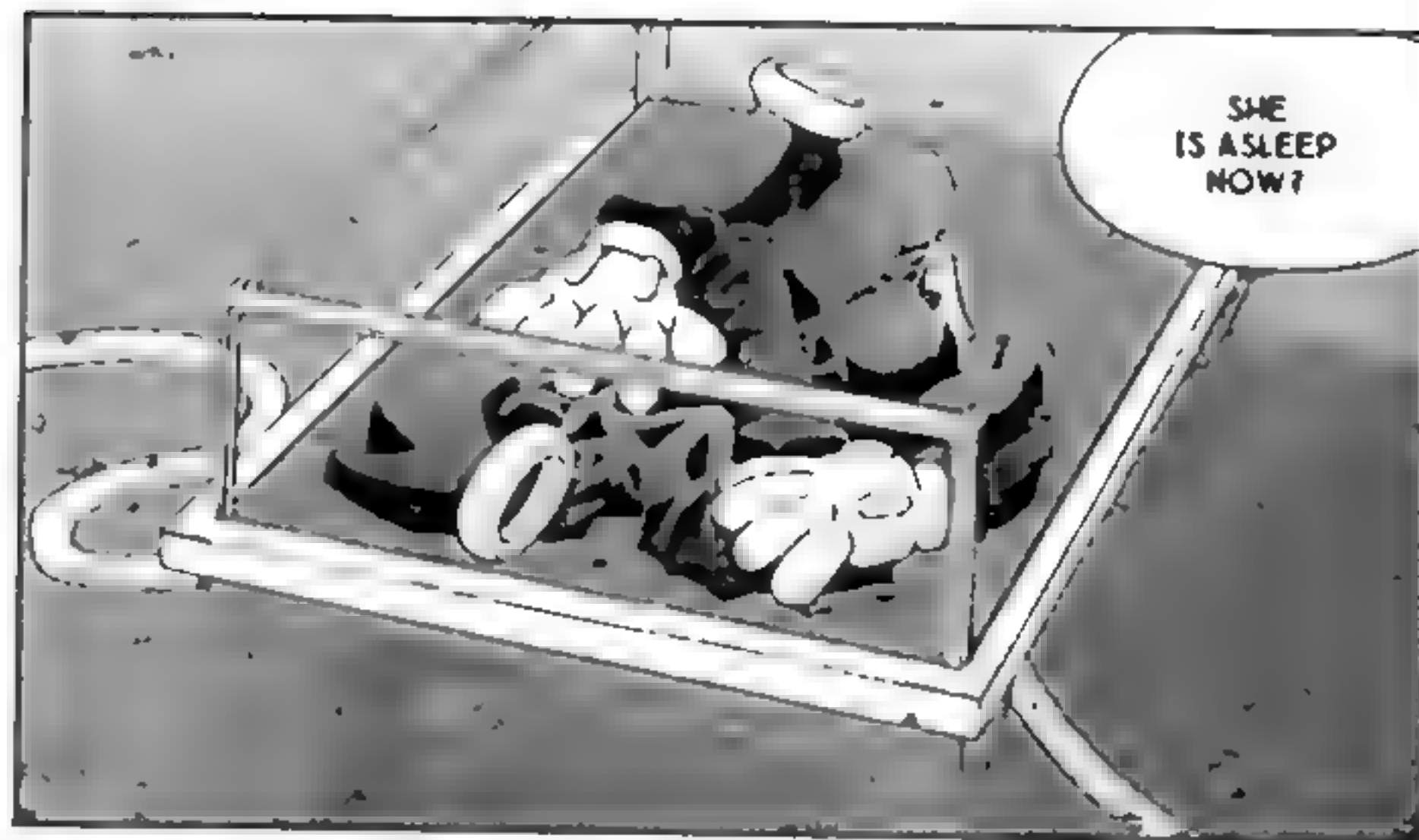
OF COURSE
THEY NEED TO.
YOU SEE, THESE
BODIES...ARE TO
BECOME THE
GIGANTESSA'S
NUCLEUS. THEY'RE
MORE THAN
ORDINARY
SACRIFICES...



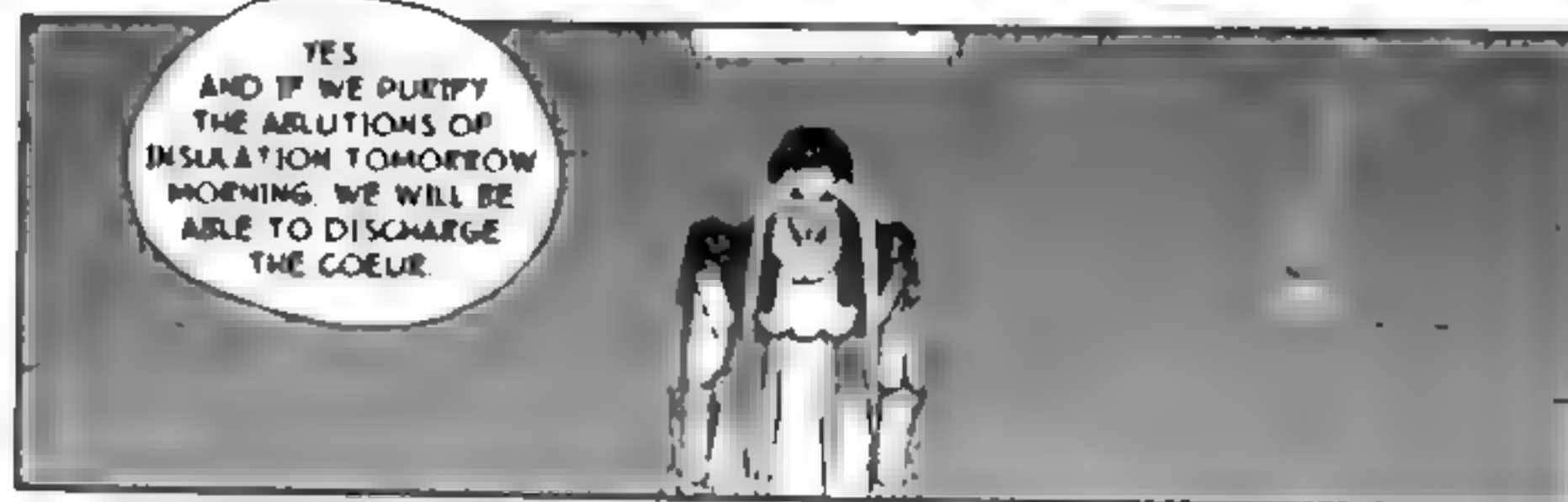
I DUNNO.
DO YOU REALLY THINK
THOSE GIRLS NEED TO
DIET? THEIR BODIES
ARE ALREADY SO
PERFECT!



YES! ONE
LUCKY PERSON.
WITH A LITTLE HELP
FROM THE ULTIMATE
DIET...GETS TO
BECOME A MUMMY
WHILE THEY'RE
STILL ALIVE.



SHE
IS ASLEEP
NOW?



YES
AND IF WE PURIFY
THE ABILITIES OF
INSULATION TOMORROW
MORNING, WE WILL BE
ABLE TO DISCHARGE
THE COEUR.



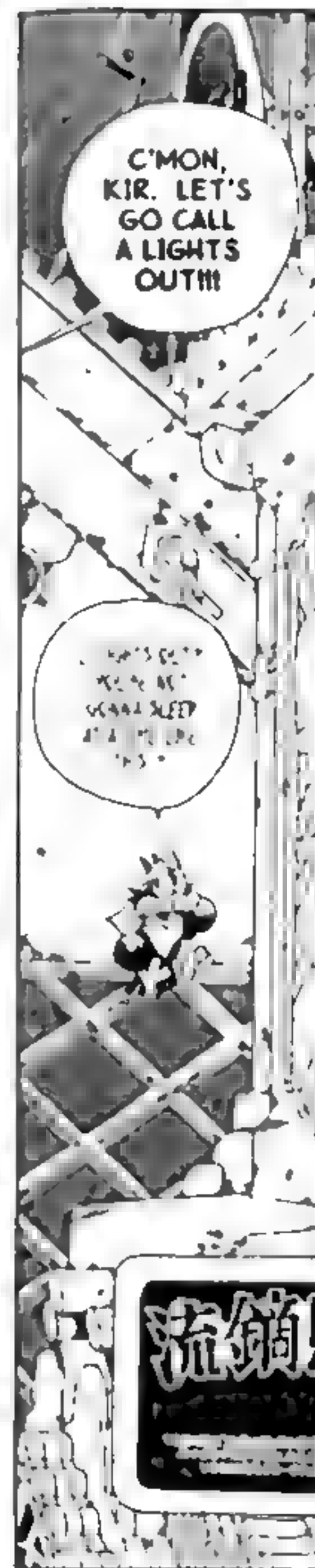
EVEN WHEN
SHE WAS
SELECTED...



NO NO
SOMETHING
I HAD EXPECTED
A LITTLE MORE
RESISTANCE
FROM HER AND
HER PALAN
FOLLOWERS



THAT GIRL MAY BE
A HEATHEN BUT
SHE IS AS NOBLE AS
THEY COME!



C'MON,
KIR. LET'S
GO CALL
A LIGHTS
OUT!!

LET'S GO
KIR. LET'S
GO CALL
A LIGHTS
OUT!!

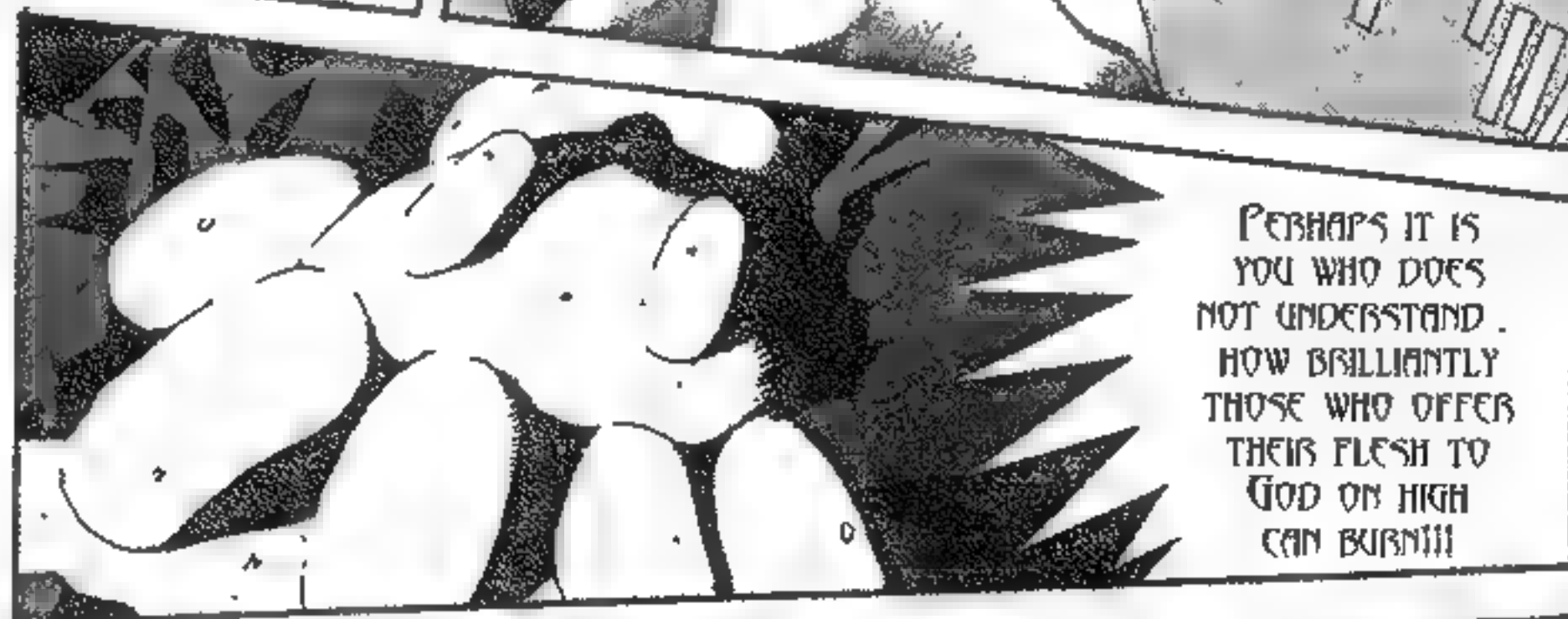


ALL NIGHT THAT'S
GREAT JAG BUT
WHAT'S YOUR
PLAN?

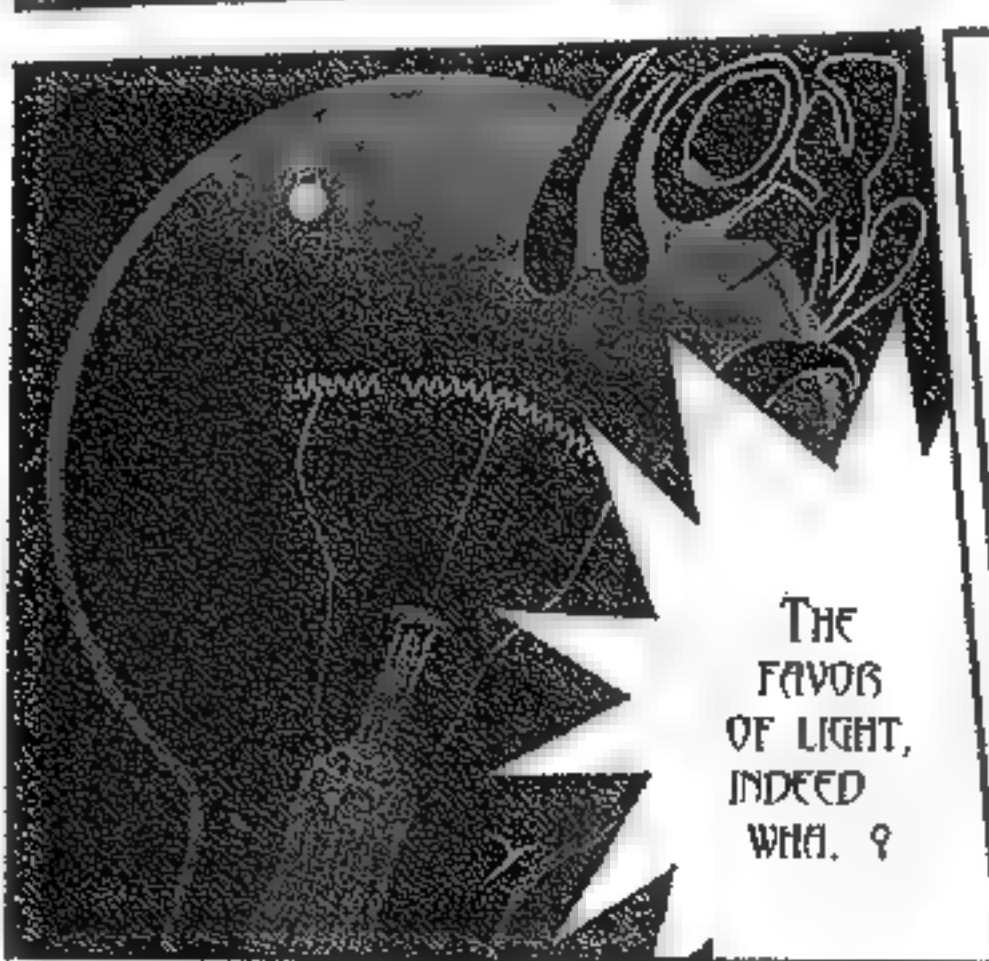


ARAK,
ARAK, ARAK
STILL BEING
SEDUCED BY
SUCH VULGAR
IDEALS?

DIE?
DIE, SHE
SAID?



PERHAPS IT IS
YOU WHO DOES
NOT UNDERSTAND.
HOW BRILLIANTLY
THOSE WHO OFFER
THEIR FLESH TO
GOD ON HIGH
CAN BURN!!!



THE
FAVOR
OF LIGHT,
INDEED
WHY. ?



AND WHAT
OF THE BOY
HEATHEN, STILL
AT LARGE? DO
YOU INTEND
TO LAPSE INTO
SLIPPERY GRAVITY
WHERE YOU
STAND?



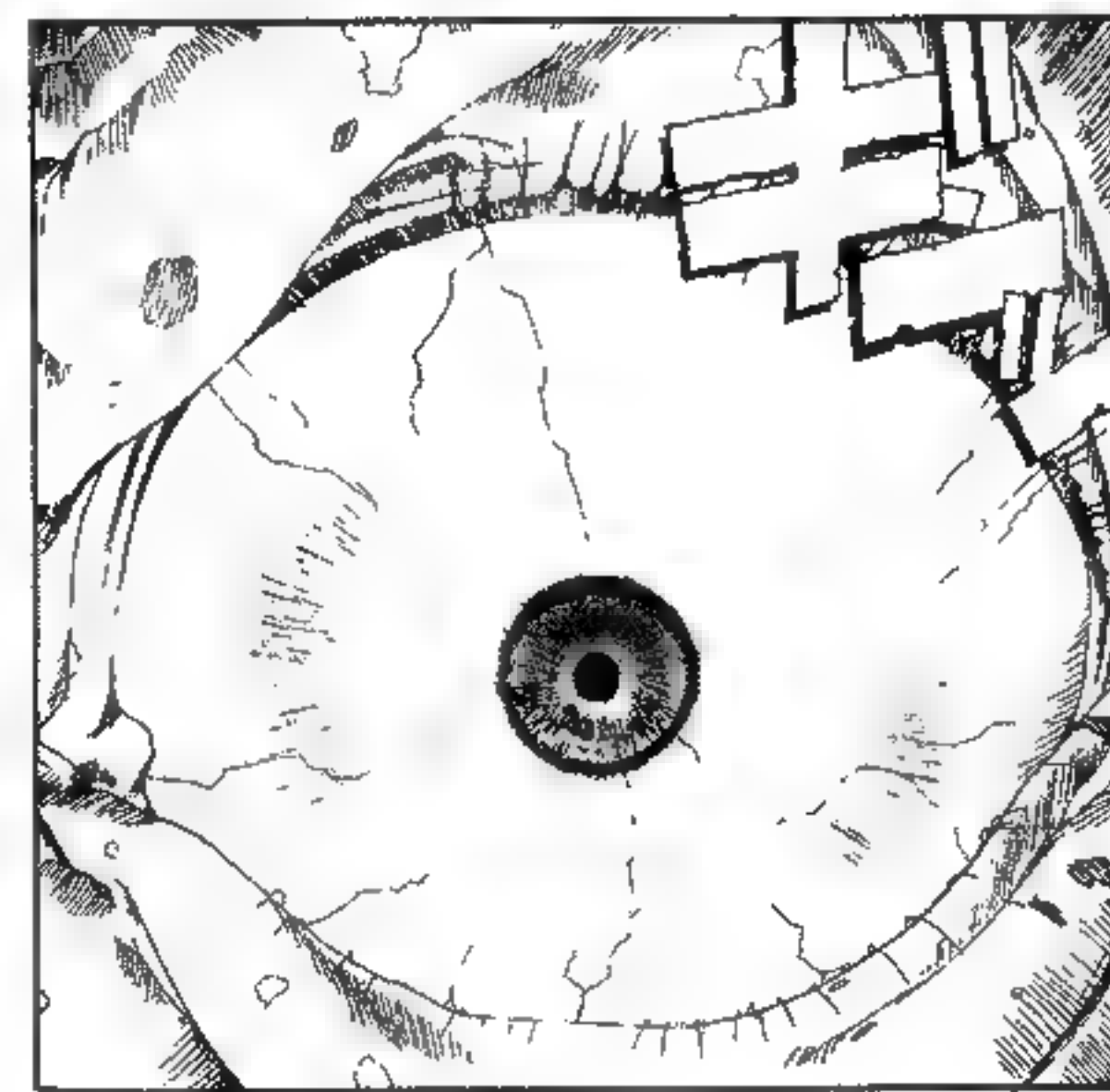
AND SO, SHE
FACED THE
GIRLS...



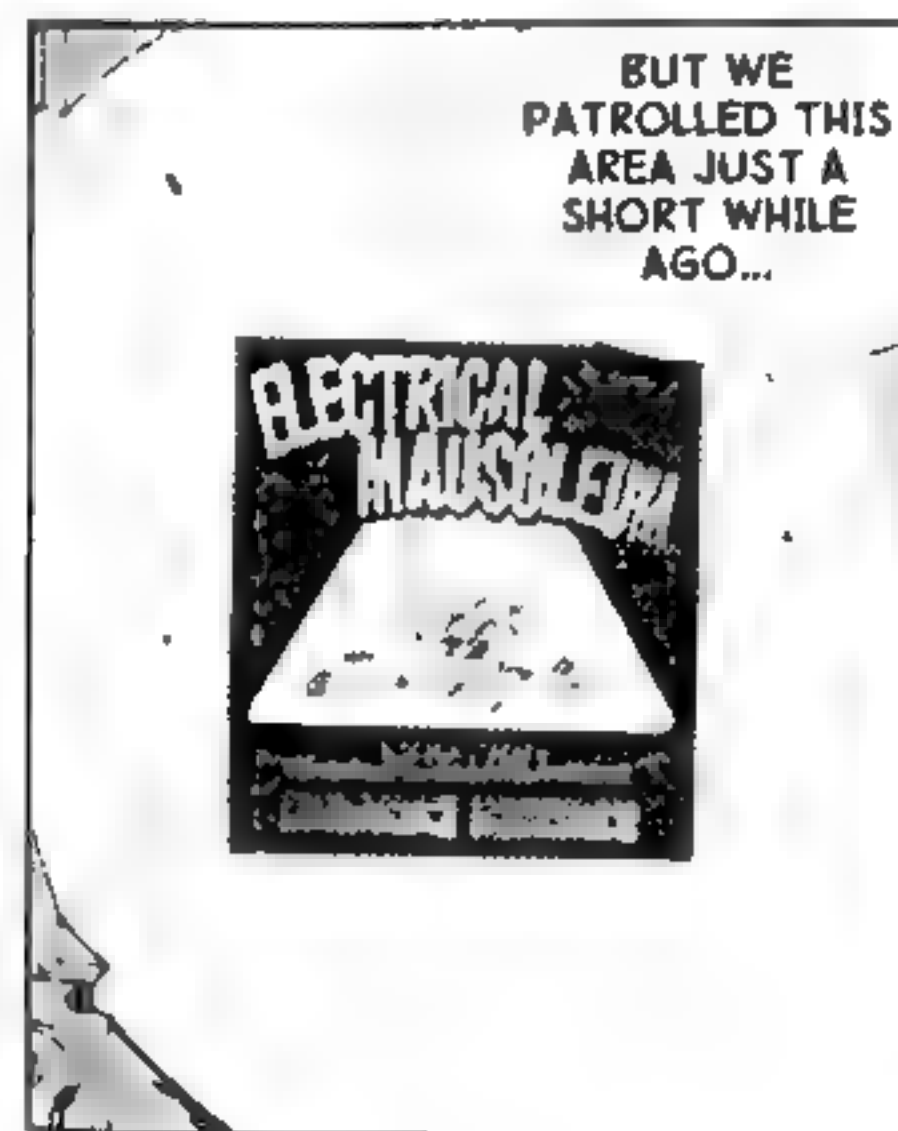
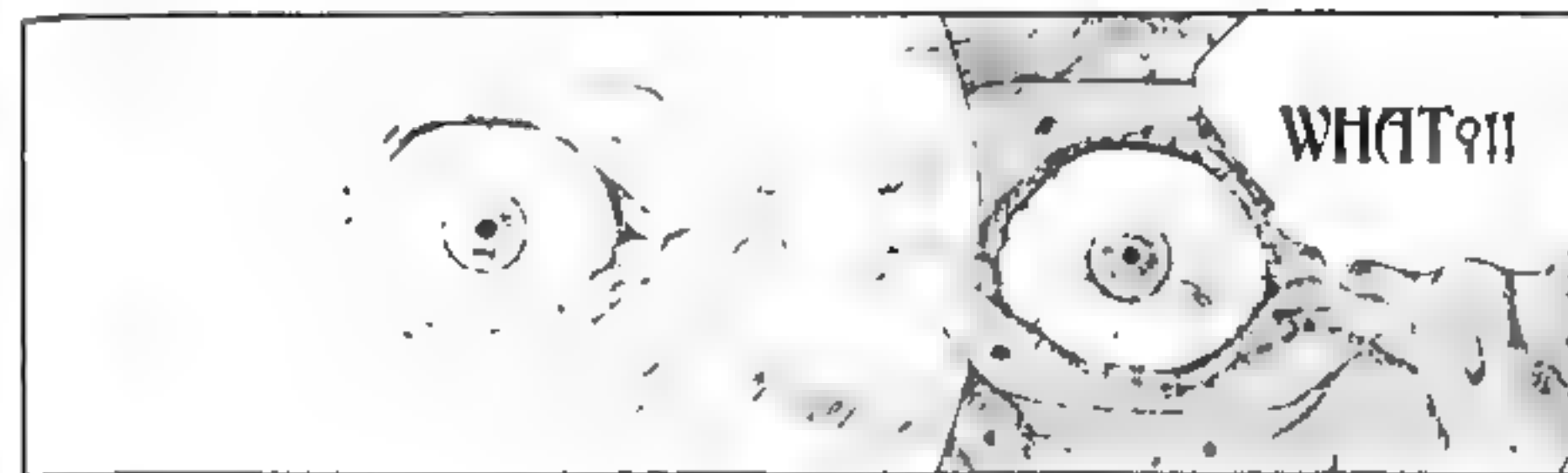
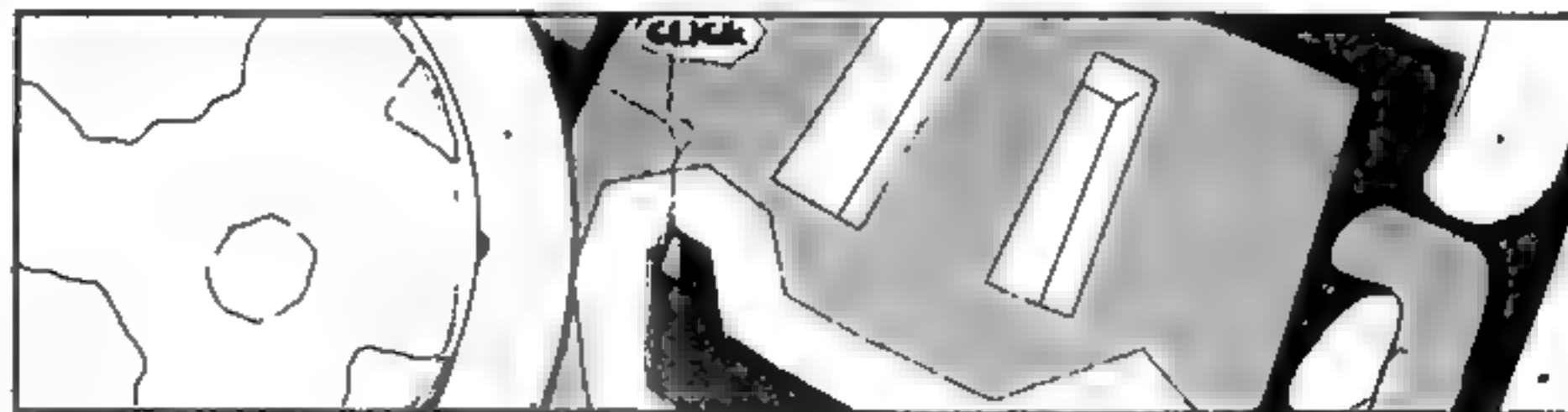
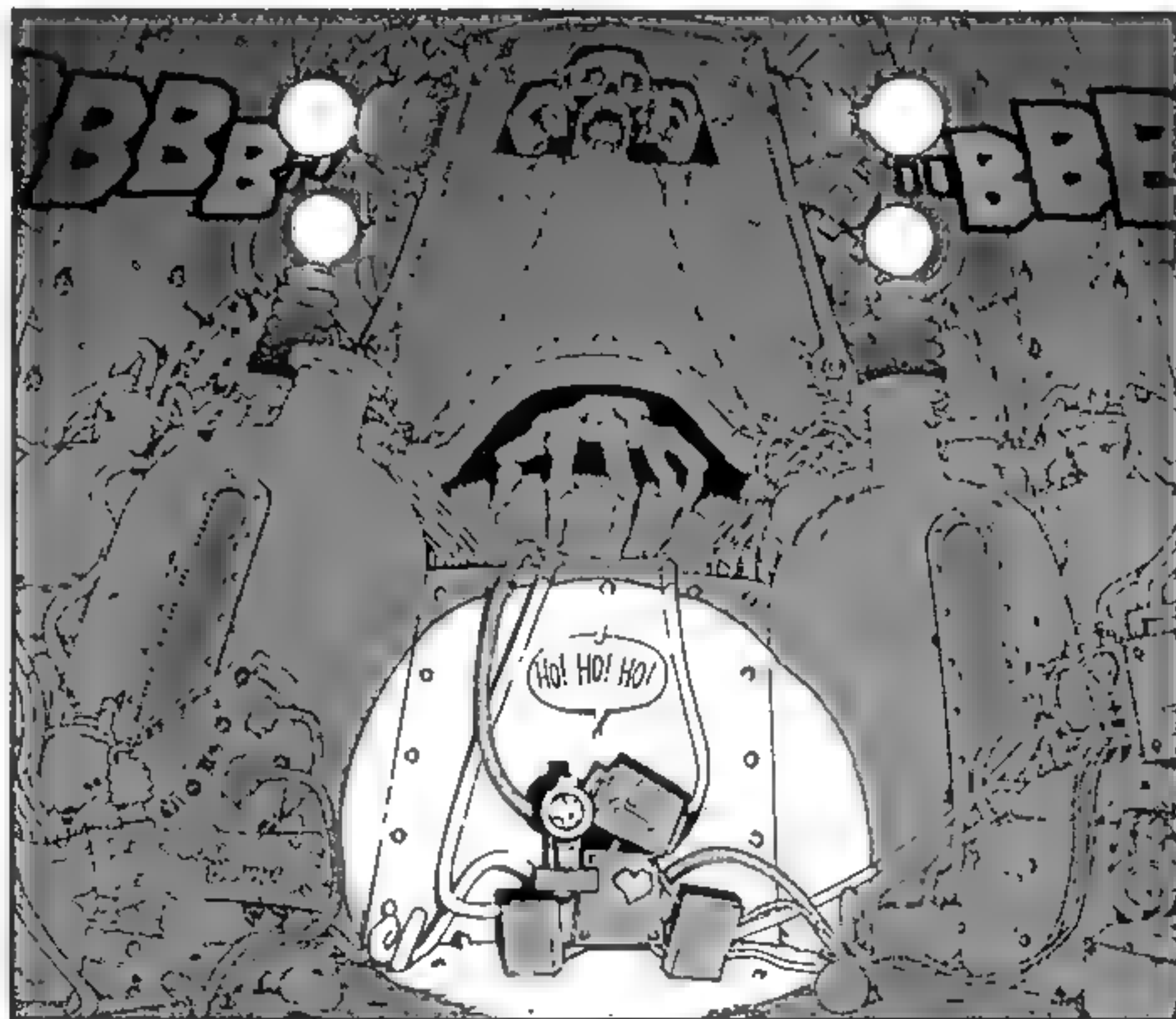
SHE
CAN'T
SAVE
ALL
OF
US...

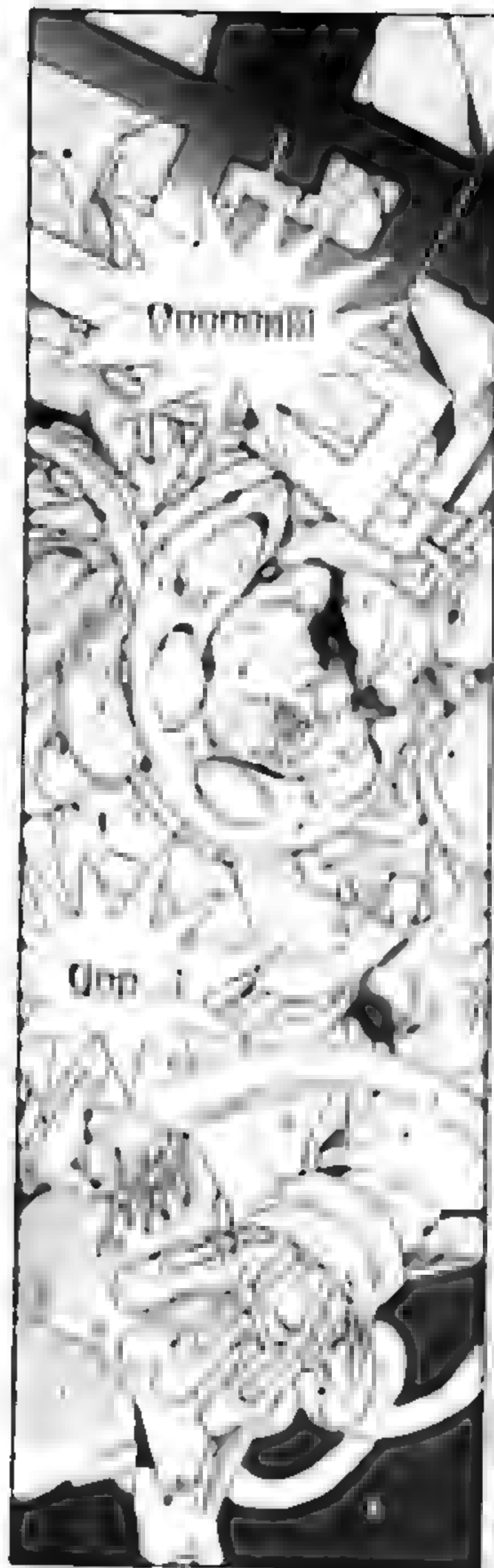
BUT
AT
LEAST
I CAN
SAVE
THEIR
LIVES
WITH MY
OWN.

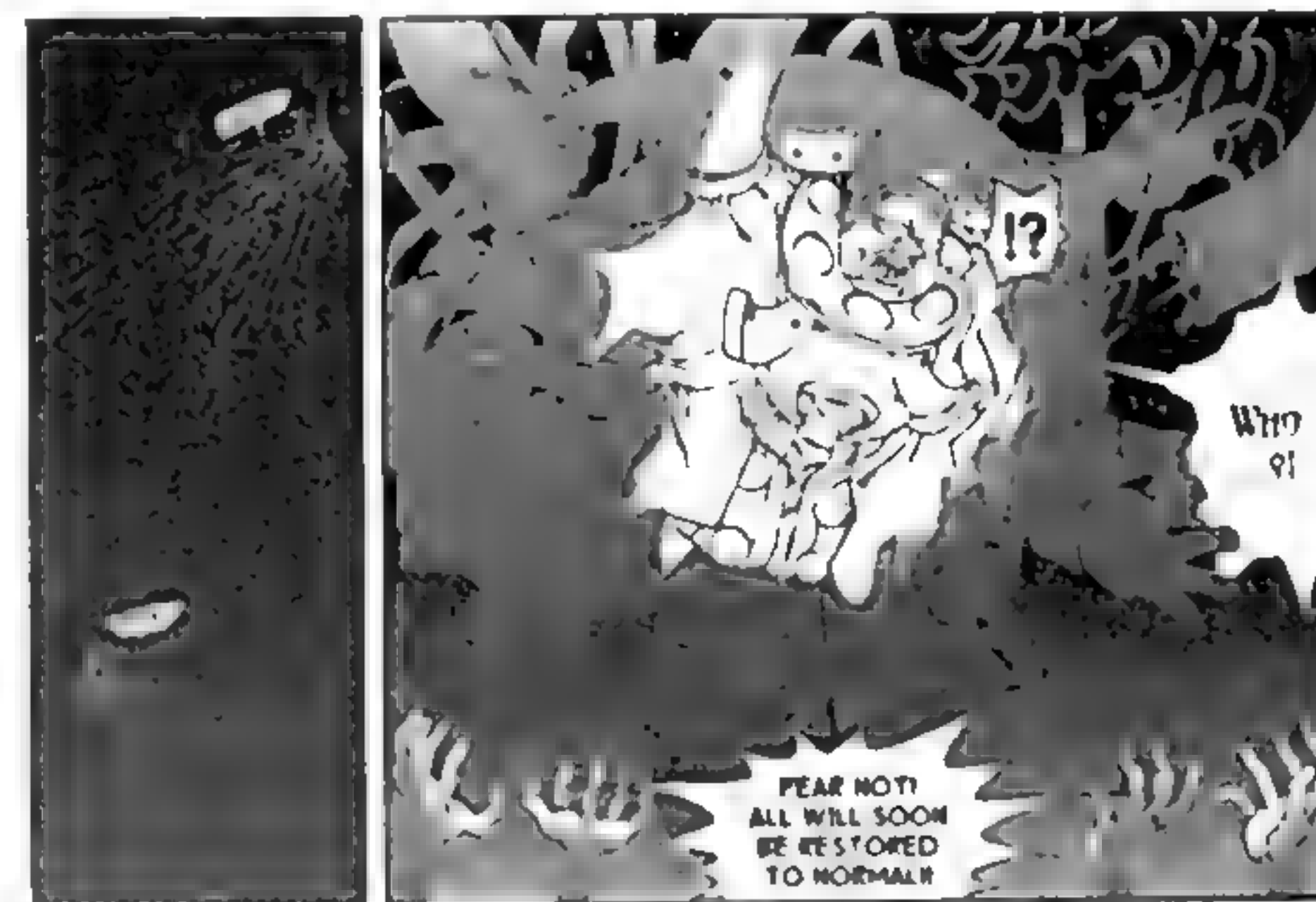
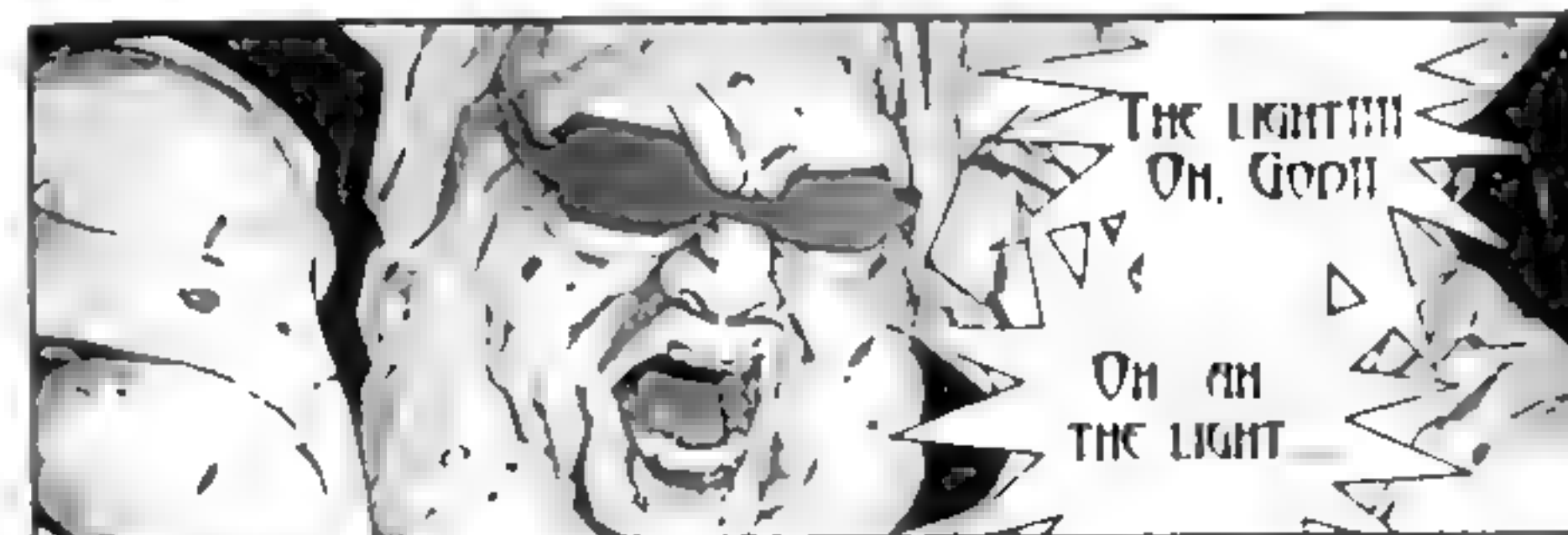
...SHE RECEIVED
THE ORACLE BY
SAYING...

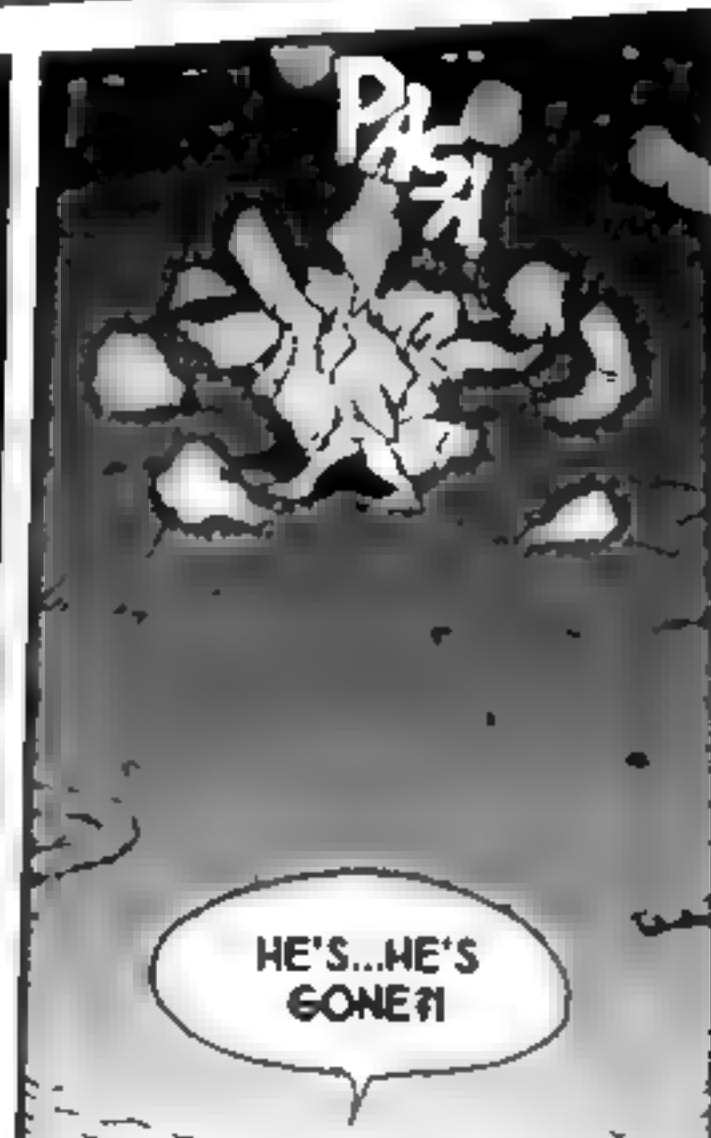


...AND TOLD
THEM...THEY
WOULD NOT
HAVE TO DIE.







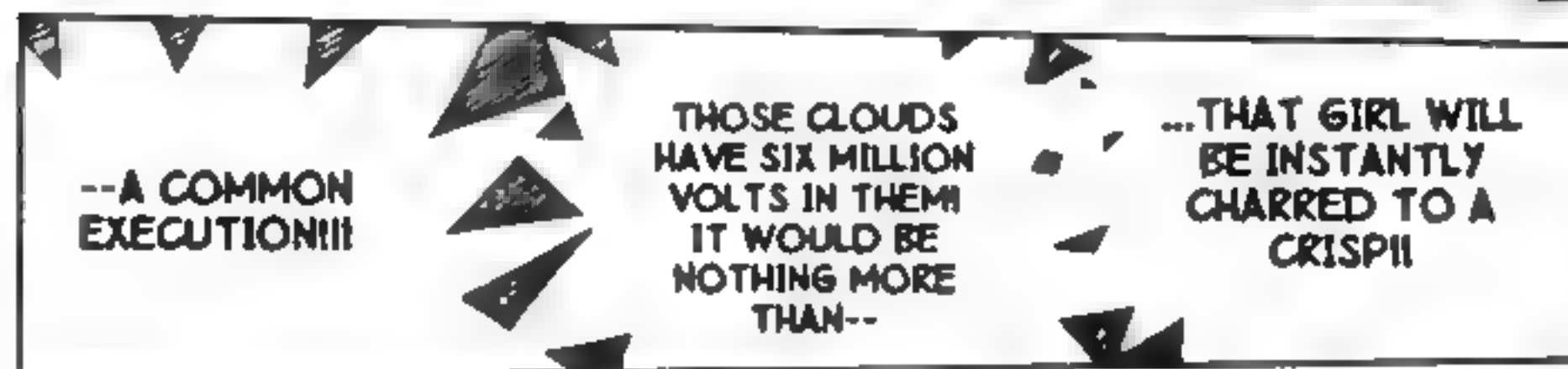




PESCA, SIR--
YOU MUST
NOT DO IT!!



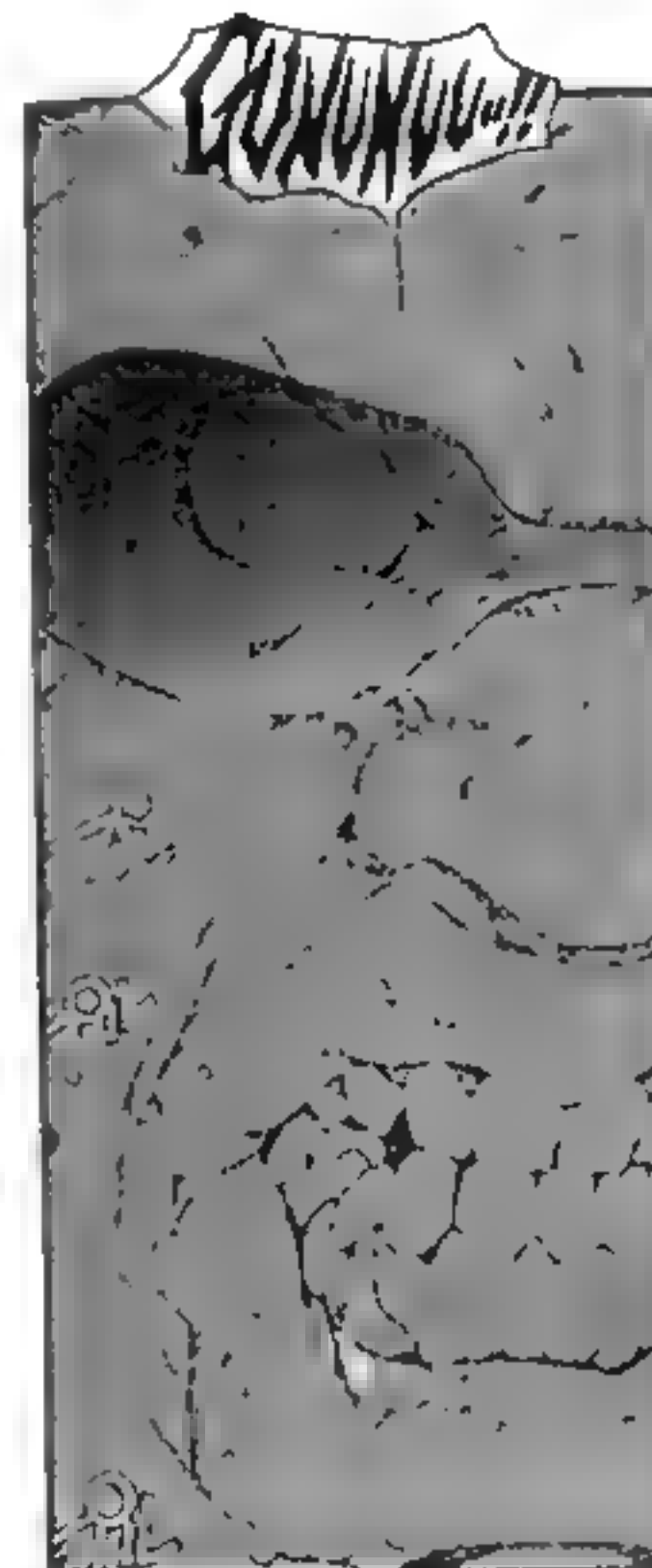
IF YOU THROW
THE COEUR INTO
THE GIGANTESSA
WITHOUT THE
ABLUTIONS OF
INSULATION...



--A COMMON
EXECUTION!!!

THOSE CLOUDS
HAVE SIX MILLION
VOLTS IN THEM!
IT WOULD BE
NOTHING MORE
THAN--

...THAT GIRL WILL
BE INSTANTLY
CHARRED TO A
CRISP!!



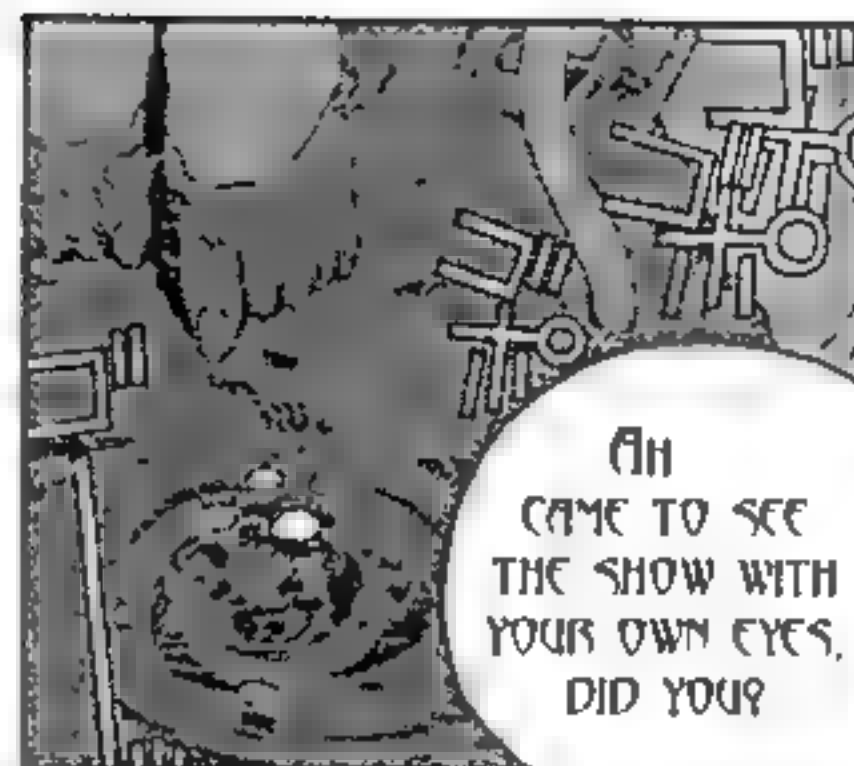
Mister Ruler of
Navel, Sir,
I'm going to take
clouds with
no place to go
from a sky where
there is no refuge
--The King of Bandits



GET
ARAK HERE
RIGHT NOW!



ARAK...!



AN
CAME TO SEE
THE SHOW WITH
YOUR OWN EYES.
DID YOU?



WITHOUT THE
ABLUTIONS..IT
WOULD BE...

LORD
PESCA.. IS
IT NOT TOO
EARLY?

PLEASE...
HAVE
MERCY!!
SHOW
SOME
MERCY!!



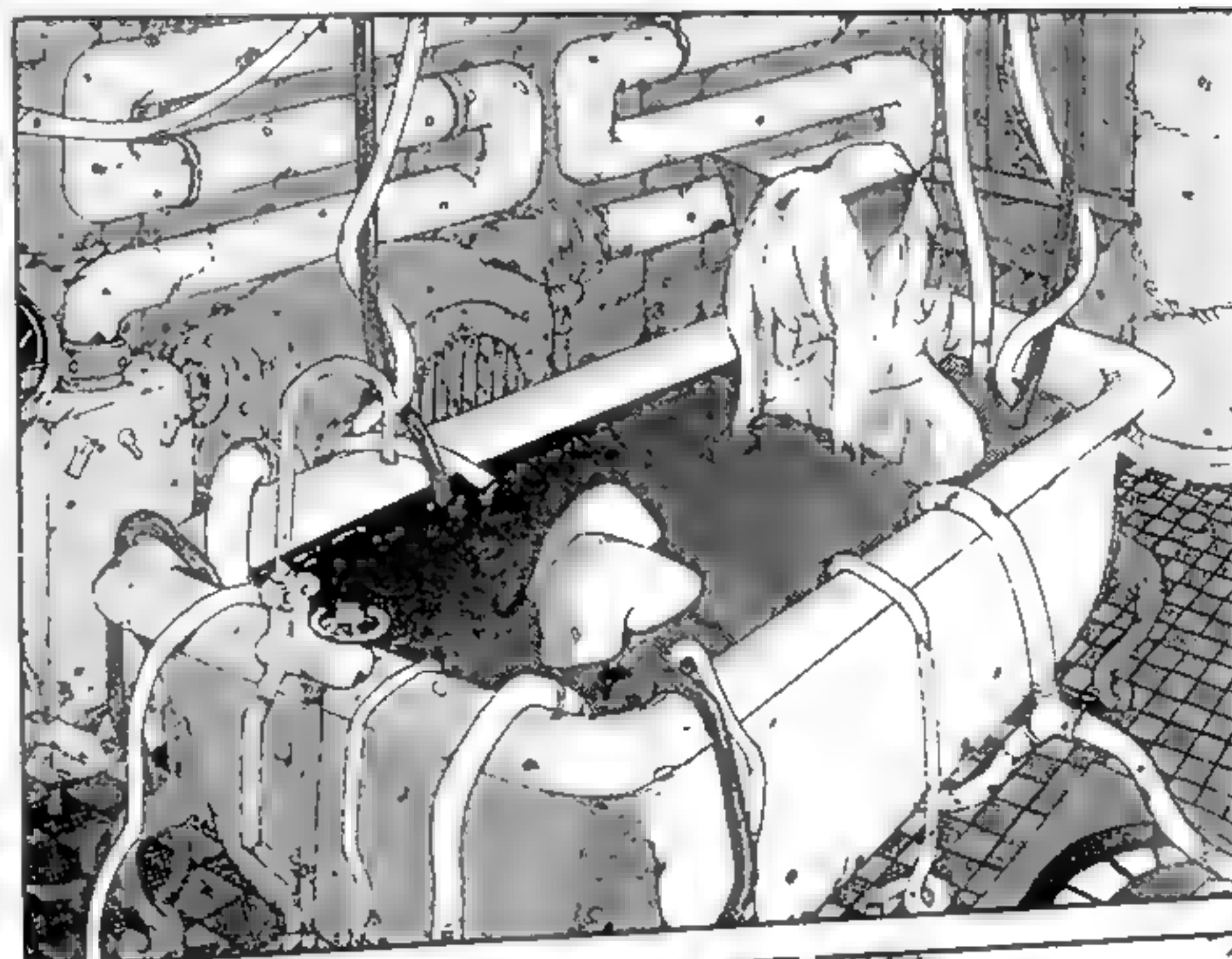
THERE'S BEEN A LITTLE
CHANGE OF PLAYS GIRLS
IT SEEMS WE HAVE A NEW
LOOK ON THE PLOTTER'S
ONE WHO GLOVES
STEALING OVER GOD!



AND IT TURNS
OUT THIS GIRL
IS ANOTHER STRAY
AMONG OUR FOLD
ONE WHO SIMILARLY
GLOVES
STEALING



IN LIGHT OF THIS
WE HAVE NO CHOICE
BUT TO COMPLETE THE
PESCA GLOVES NOW
BEFORE FURTHER
COMPLICATIONS
ARISE!



I UNDERSTAND
BUT
THIS SITUATION
REQUIRES
IMMEDIATE
ACTION!!



LORD
PESCA!



PLEASE, SIR--THE
INSULATION IS
NOT COMPLETE!



KYAAAAAAAAHHH



BECAUSE
THE CEREMONY
IS GOING TO
BEGIN



NOW ON THE
PENTAGONAL PLAZA
THEY WILL BE
BY THE SIDE OF
THE MONUMENT
CLOSE TO THE
MARTIN GARDEN



I SEE
IT SEEMS WE
HAVE SOME
MISTAKES
HERE THAT
I THOUGHT

BUT
IF YOU
DON'T
PLANNED

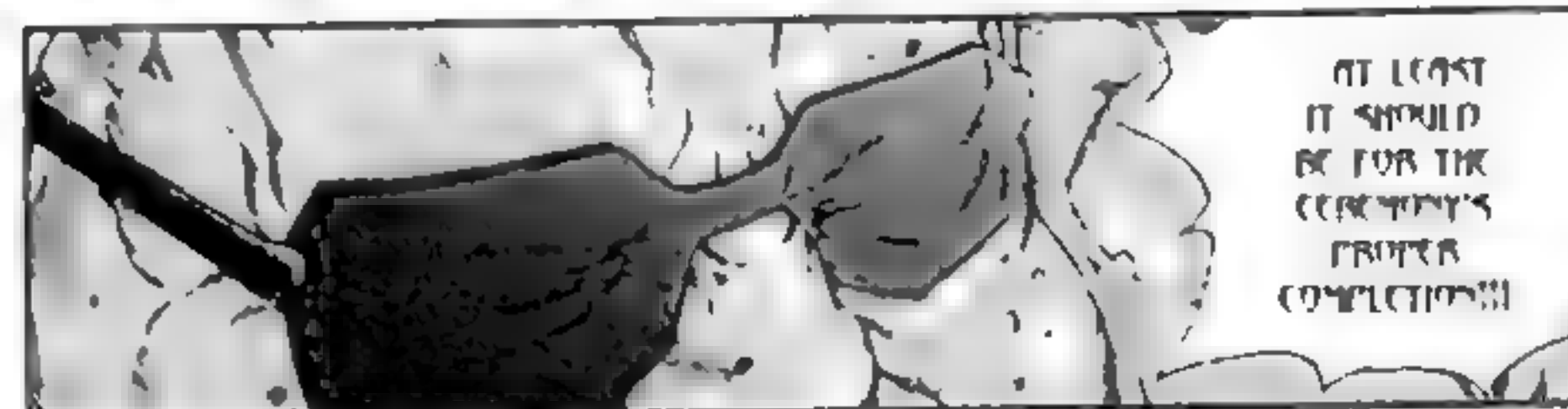


NEVER...!!

IN FACT
SHE IS NONE OTHER
THAN THE LEADER OF
THE STRAY CATS!!!



BUT, THAT
CAN'T BE.
SISTER IS A
WONDERFUL
LADY...!

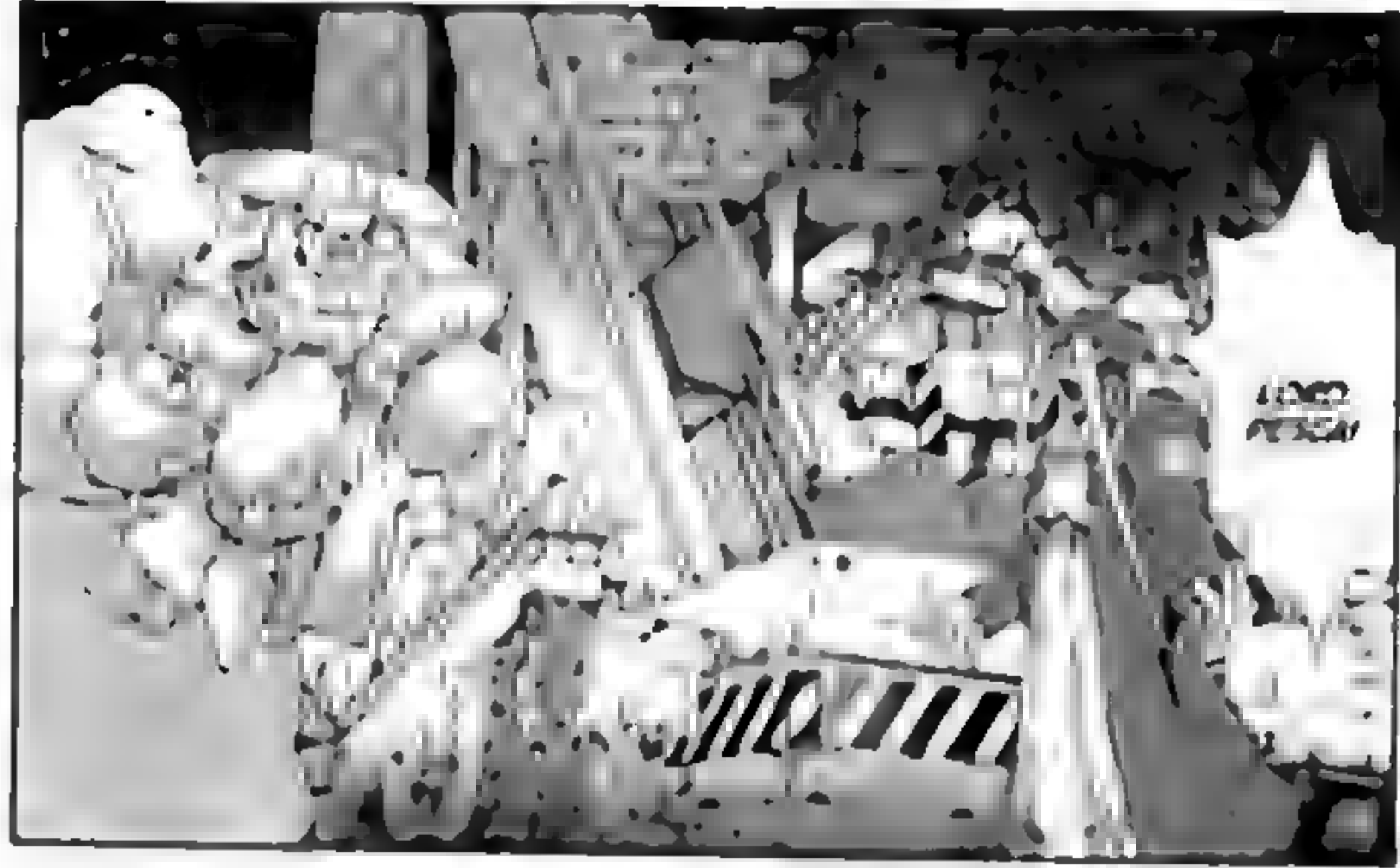
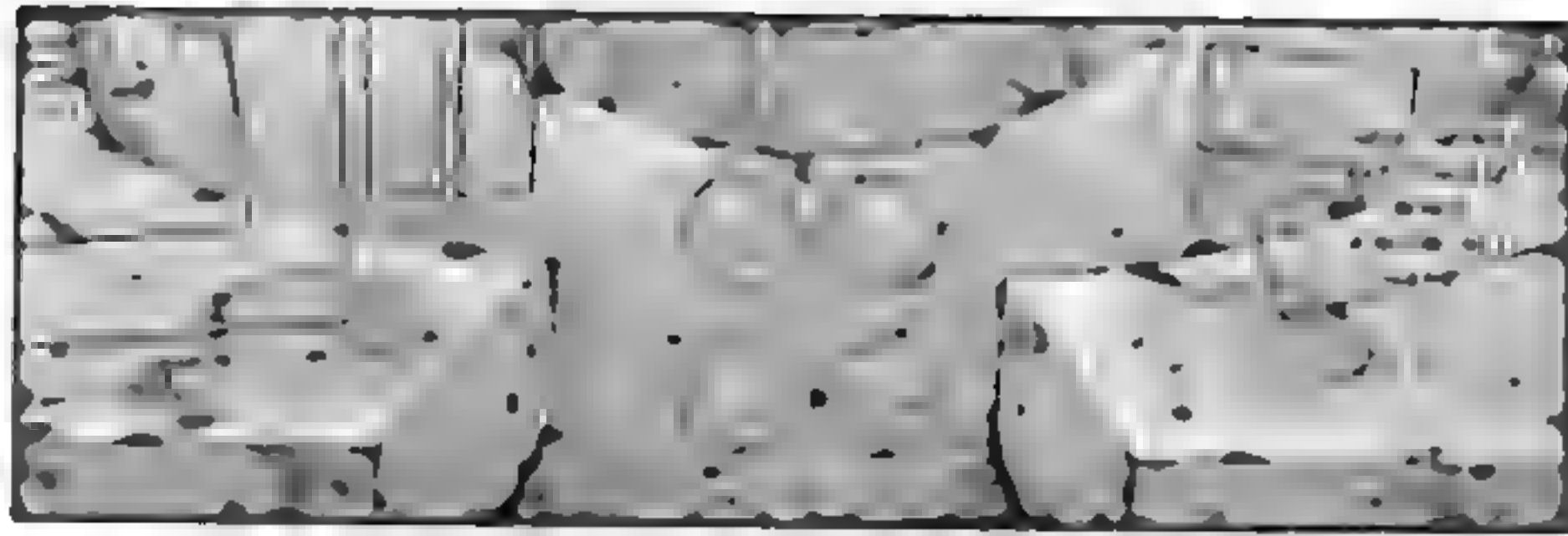


AT LEAST
IT SHOULD
BE FOR THE
CEREMONY'S
PROPER
COMPLETION!!!

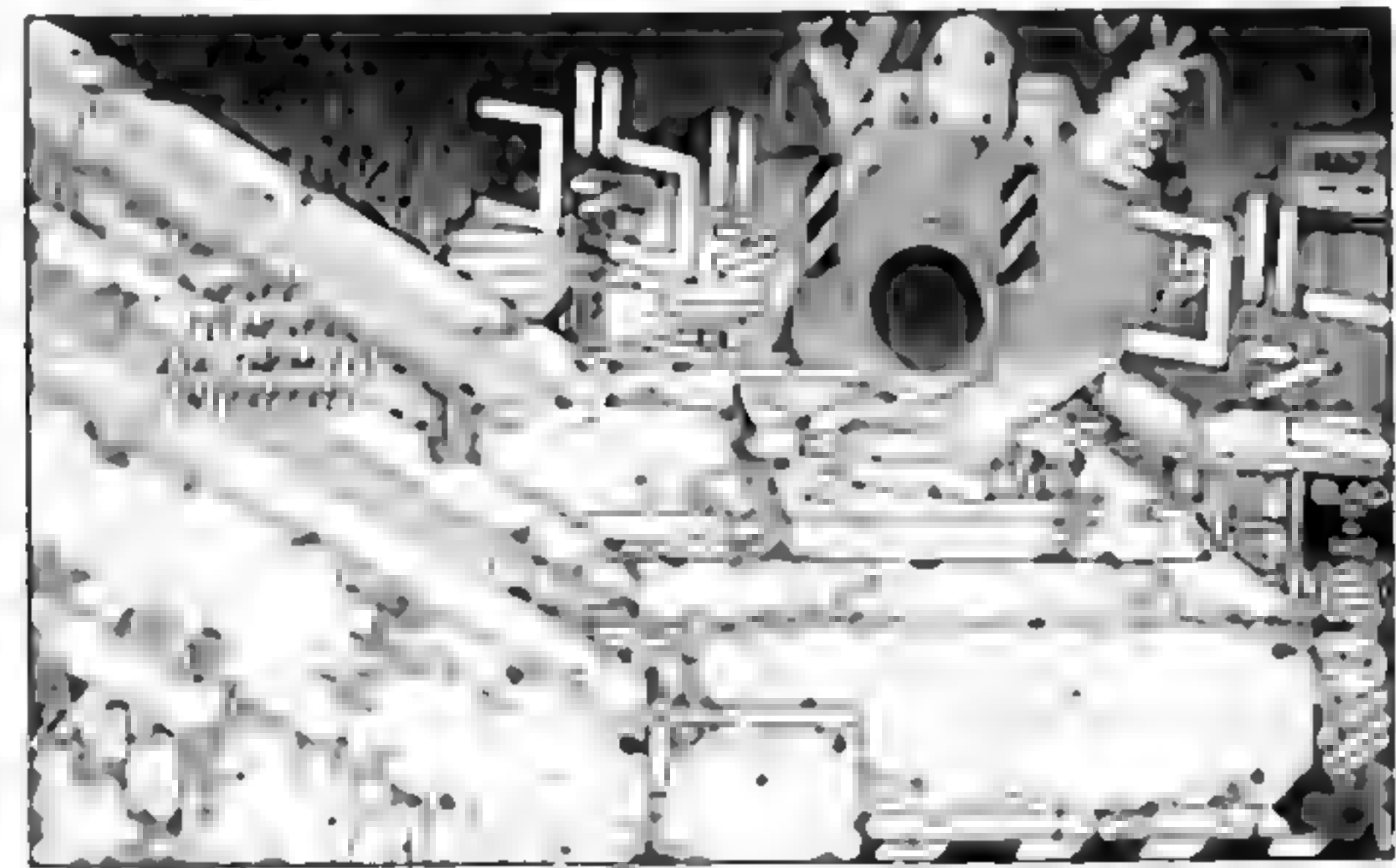


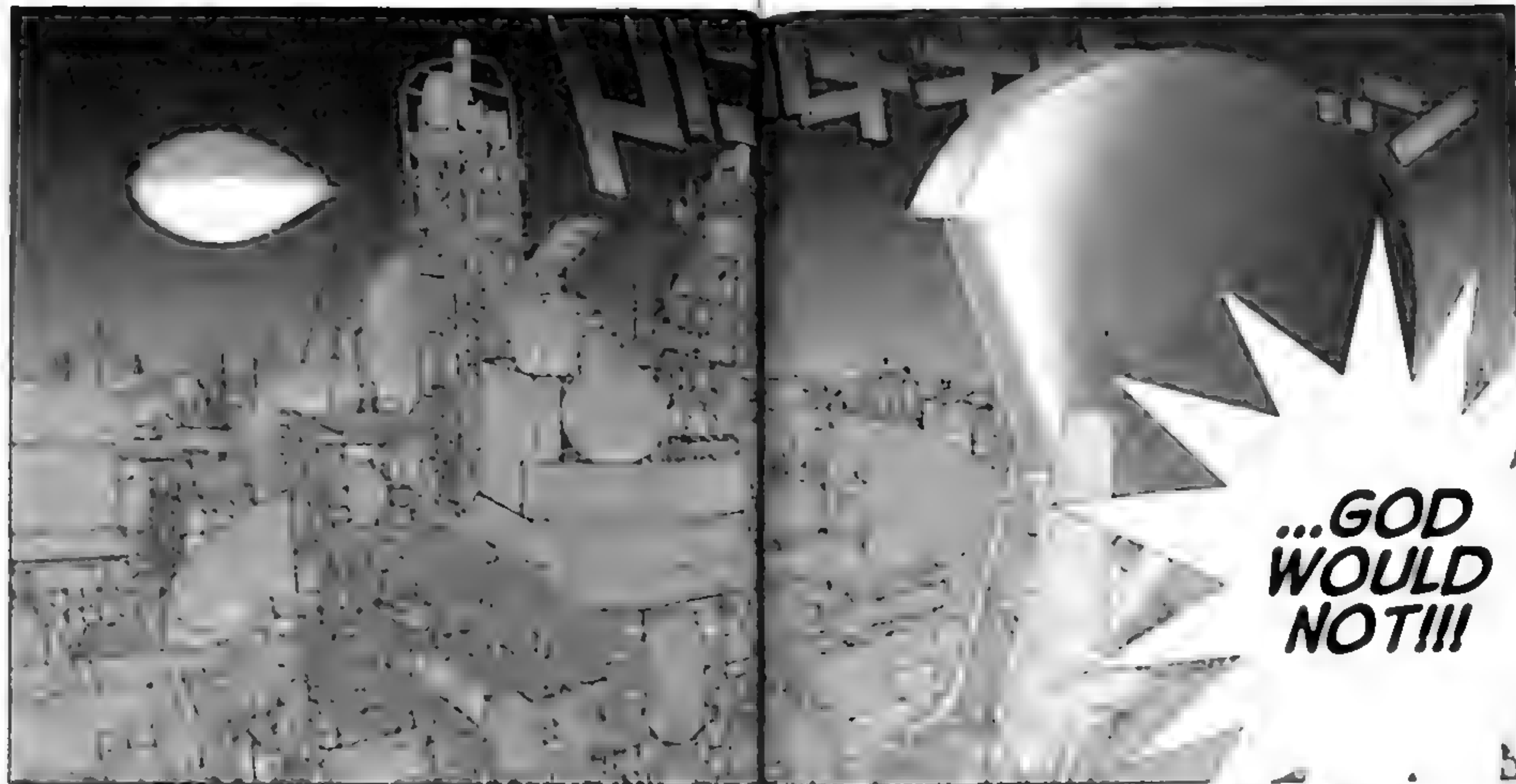
HUM

HUM

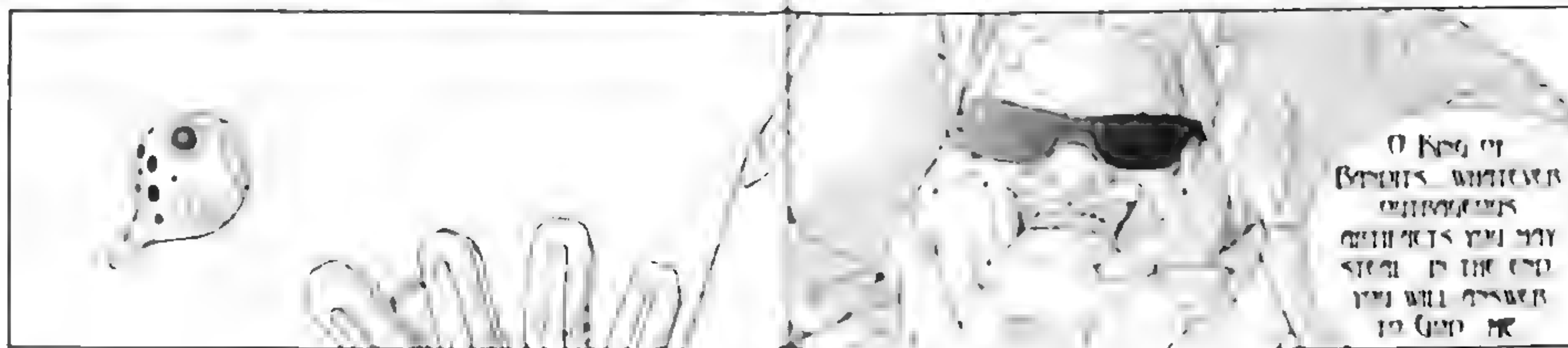


RIGHT
DOWN





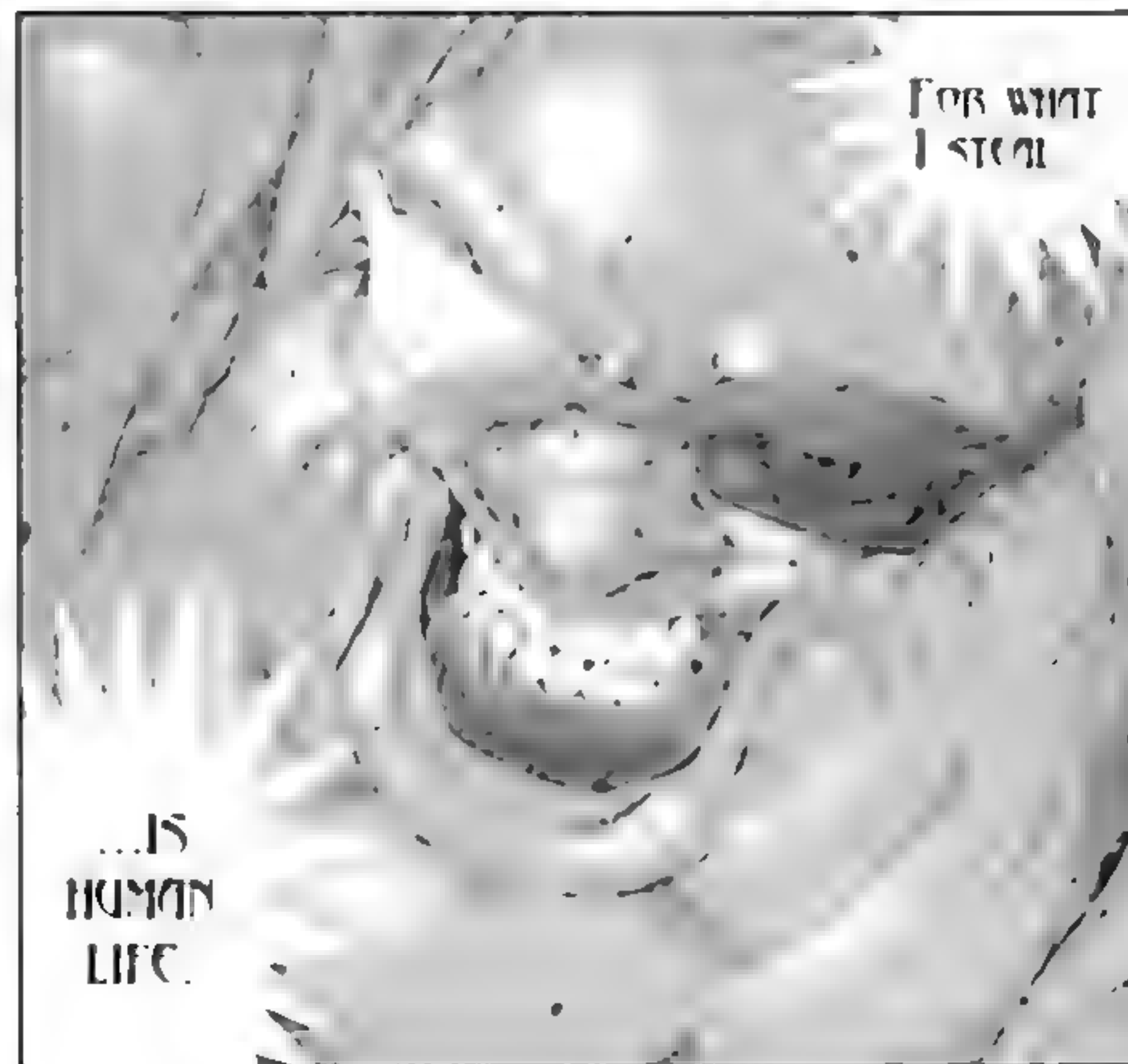
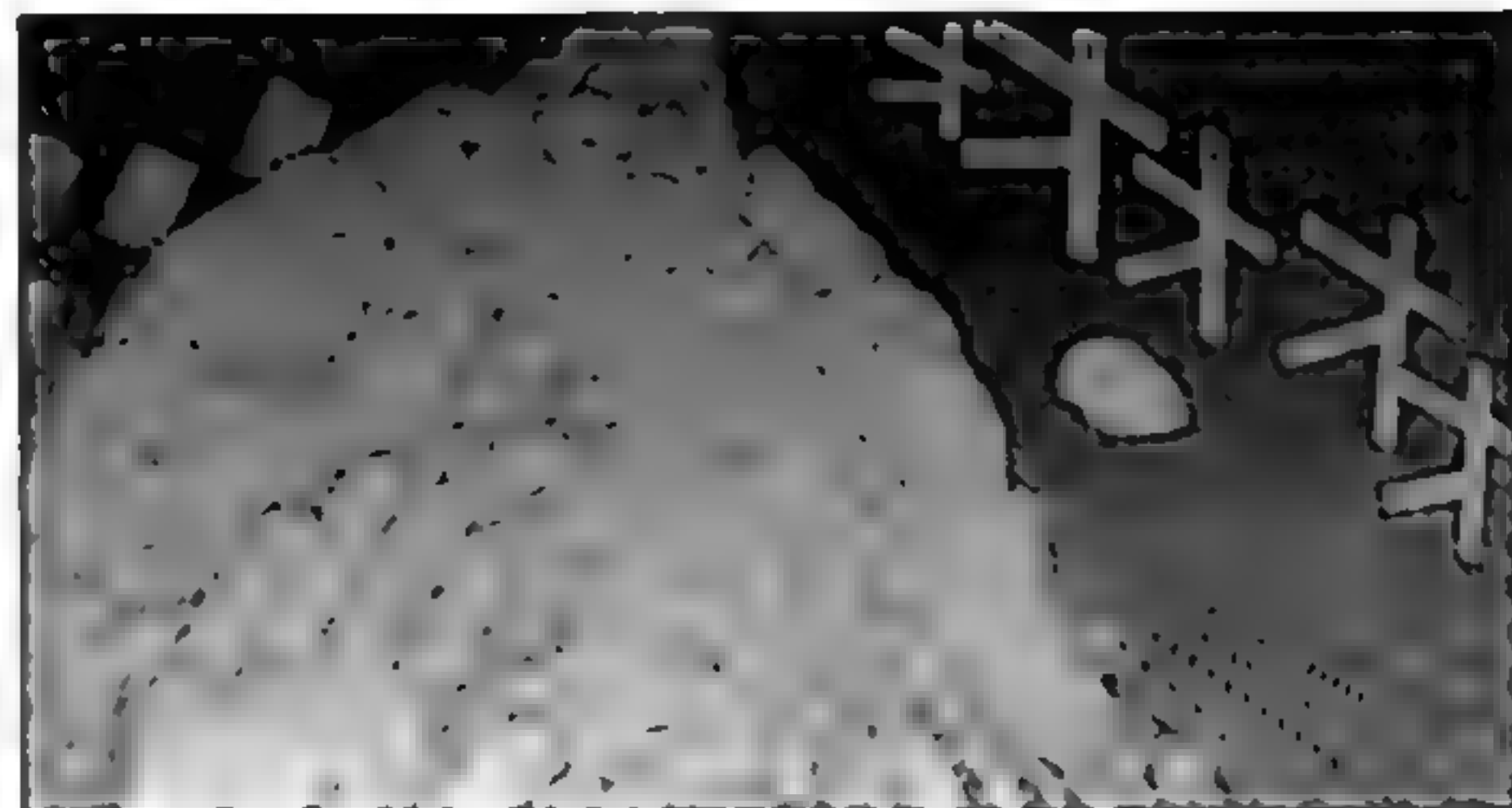
**...GOD
WOULD
NOT!!!**



O King of
BROTHERS, WHATEVER
CONFLICTS YOU MAY
STILL IN THE END
YOU WILL ANSWER
TO GOD ME

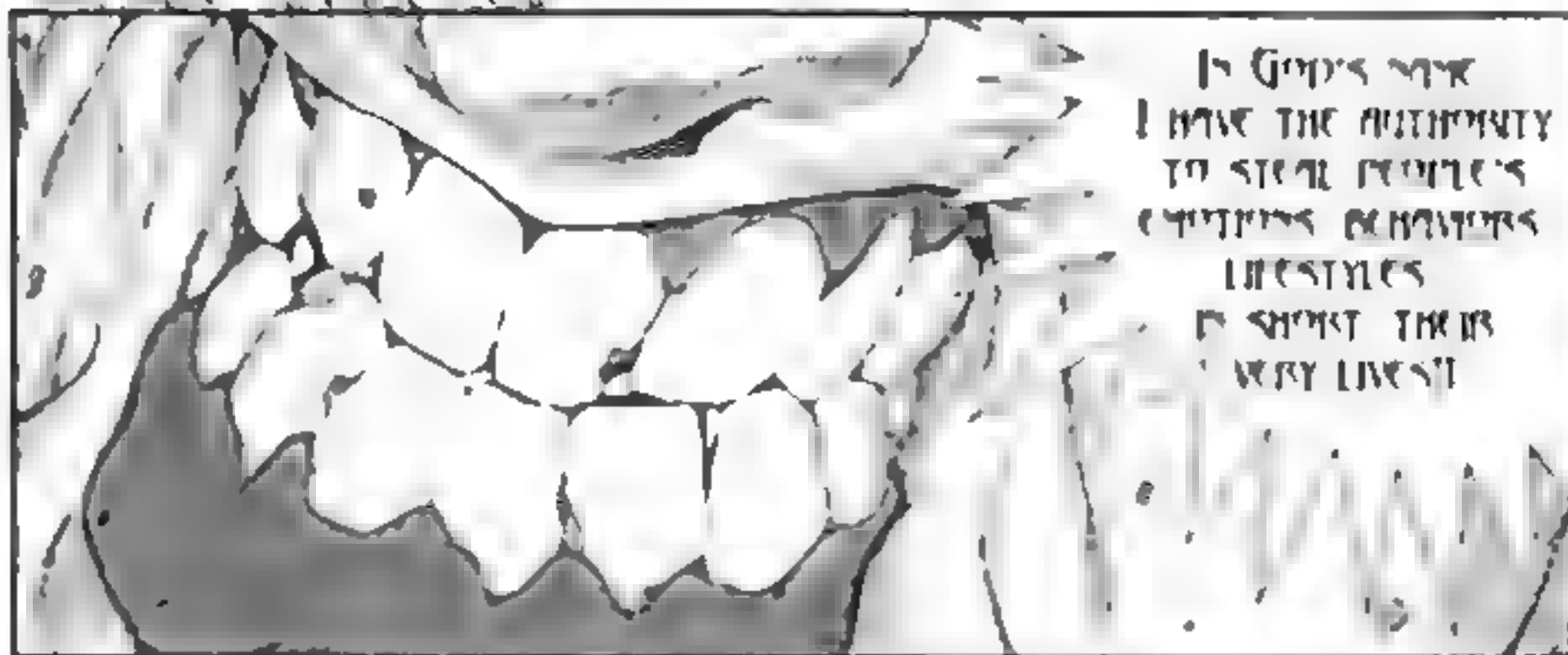
swing low, sweet chariot
comin' for to carry me home
I looked over Jordan and what
did I see

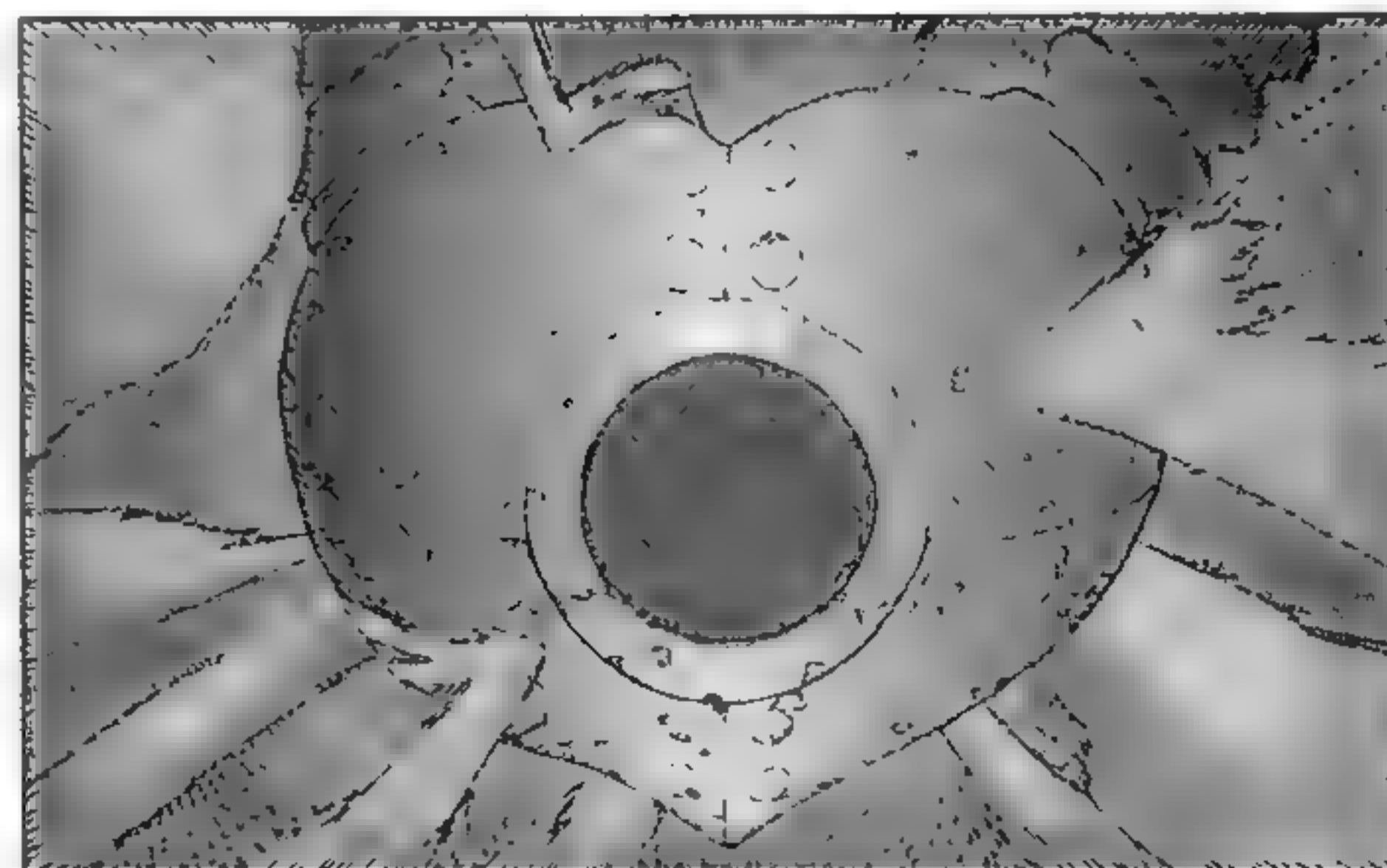
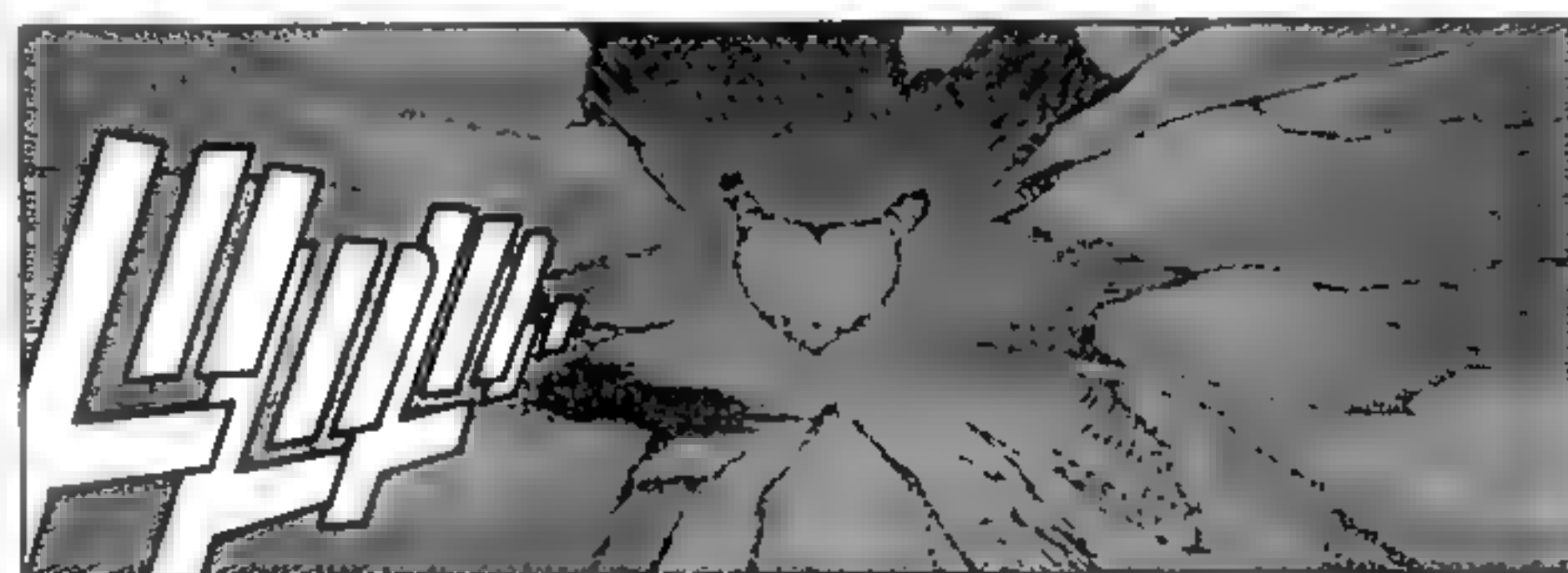
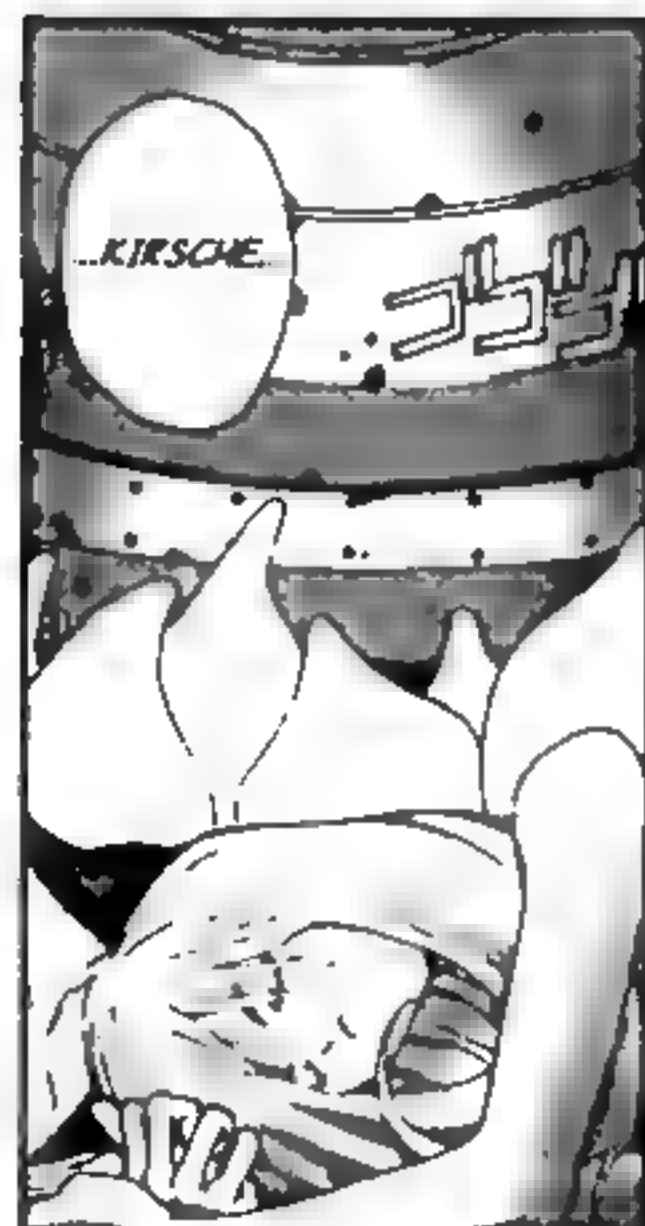
comin' for to carry me home
a band of angels comin' after me
comin' for to carry me home
oh! if you get there before I do
comin' for to carry me home
tell all my friends I'm comin' too
comin' for to carry me home

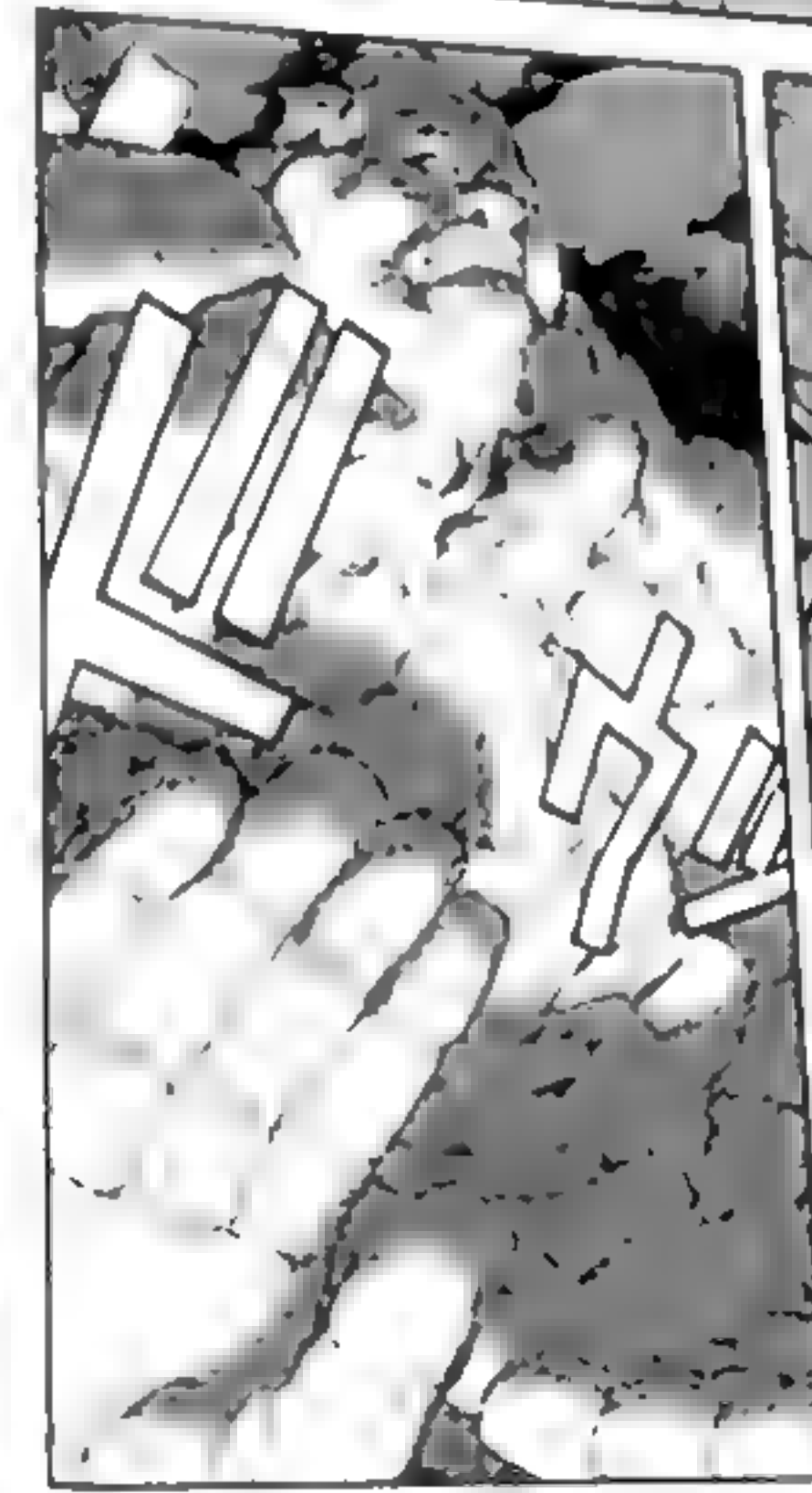
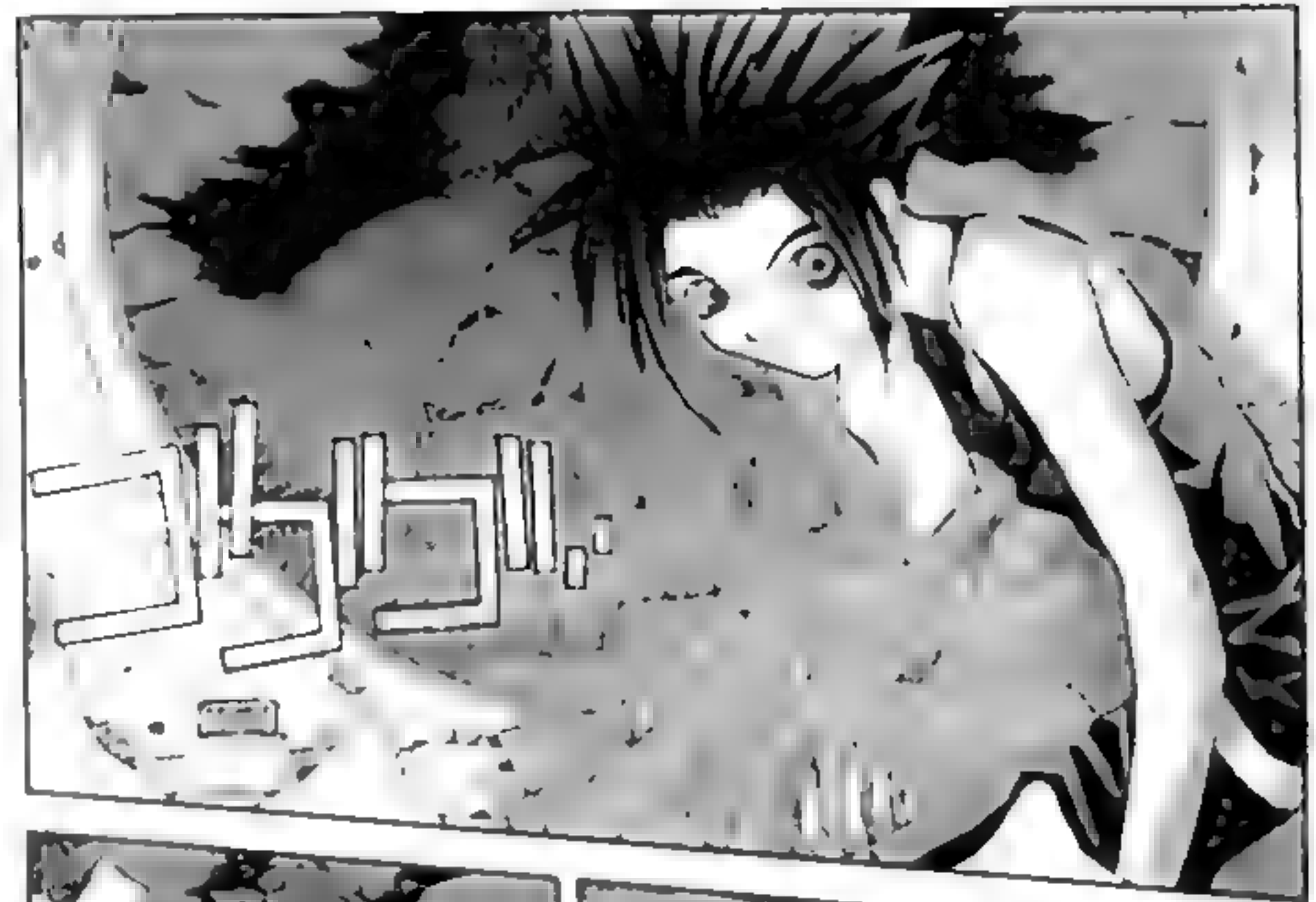
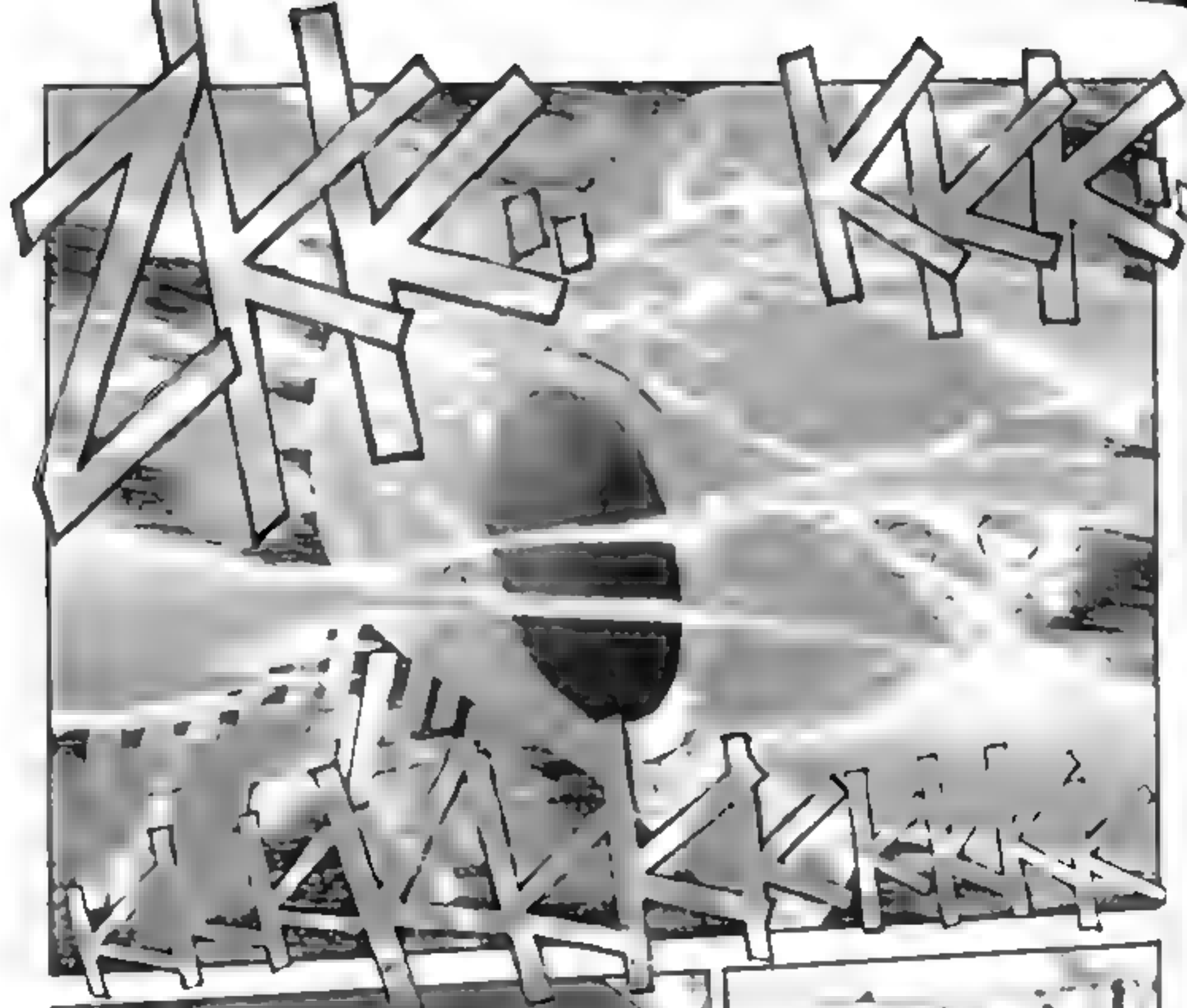


FOR WHAT
I STEAL

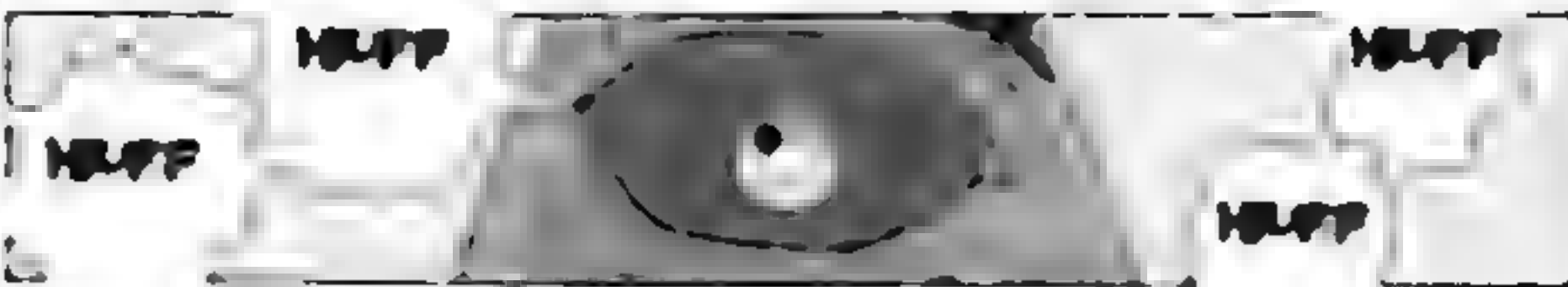
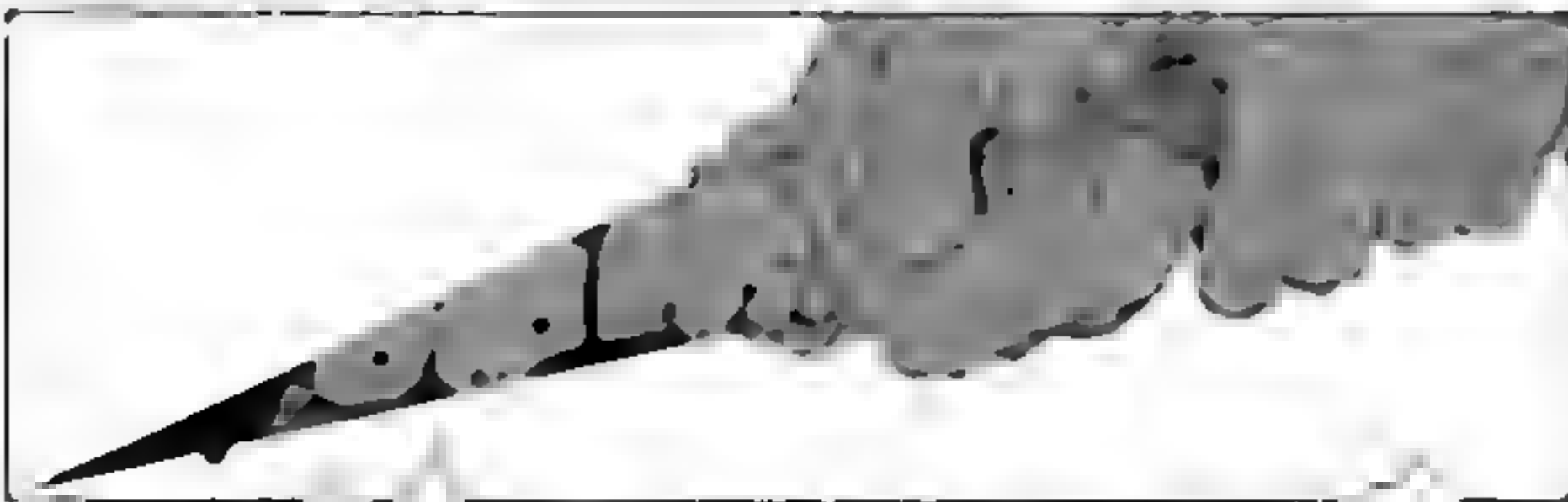
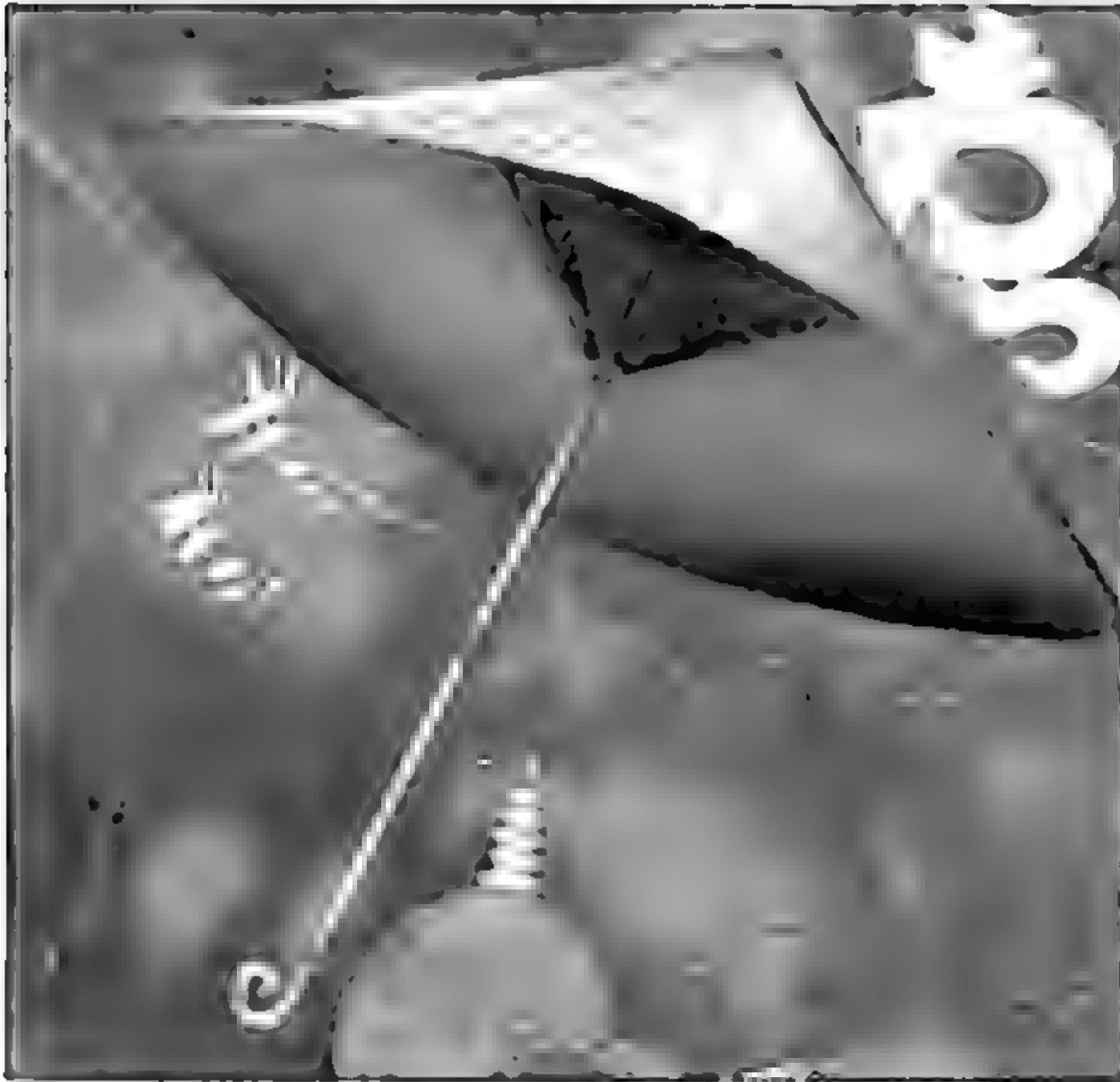
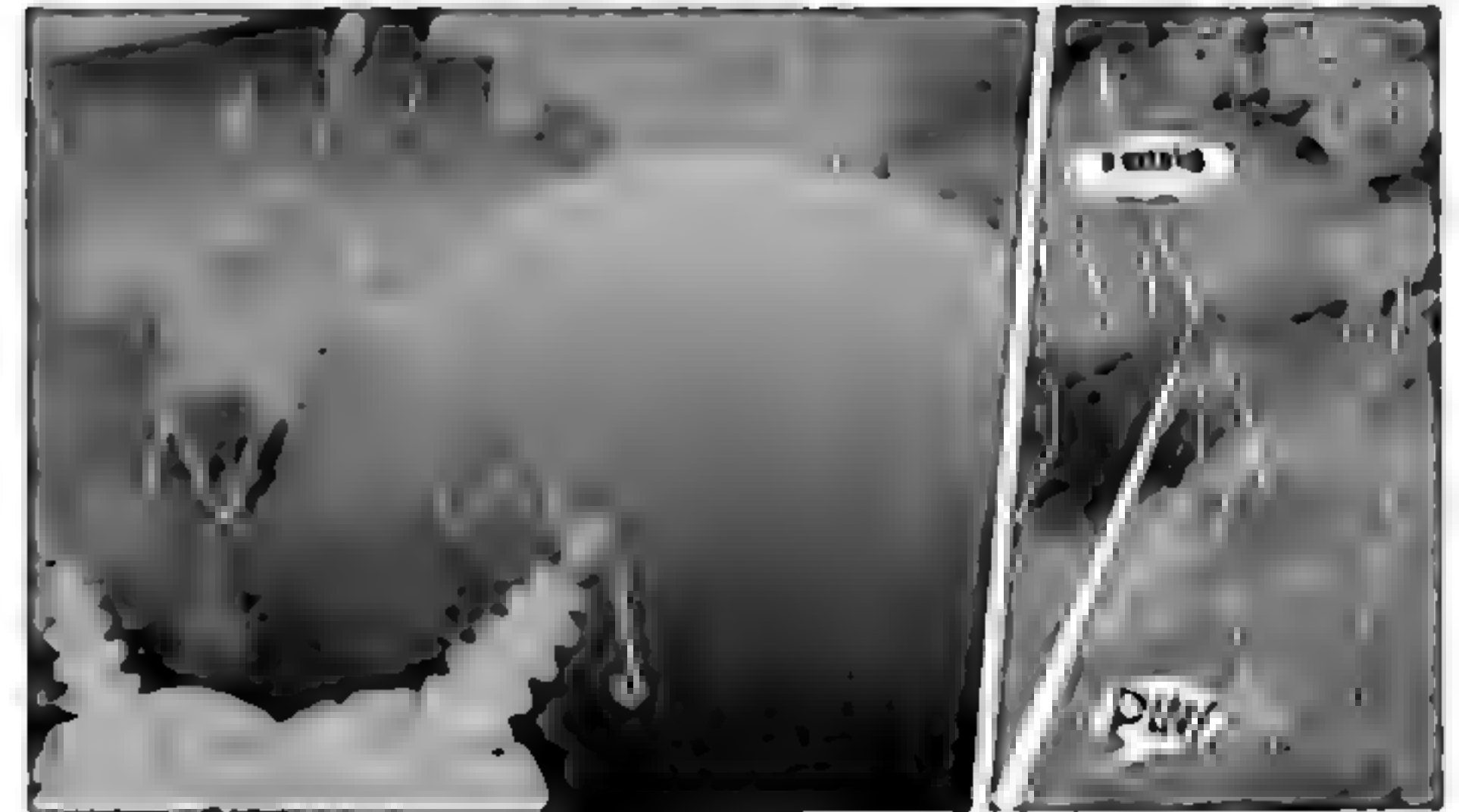
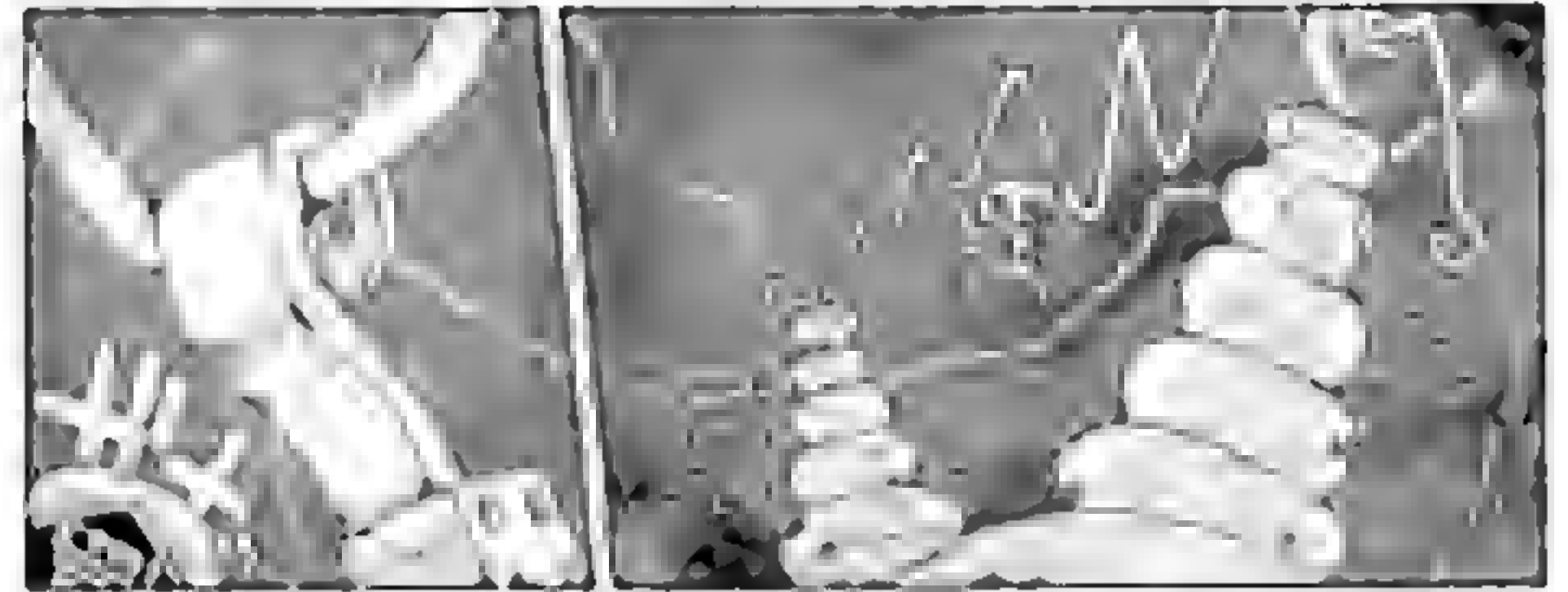
...IS
HUMAN
LIFE.

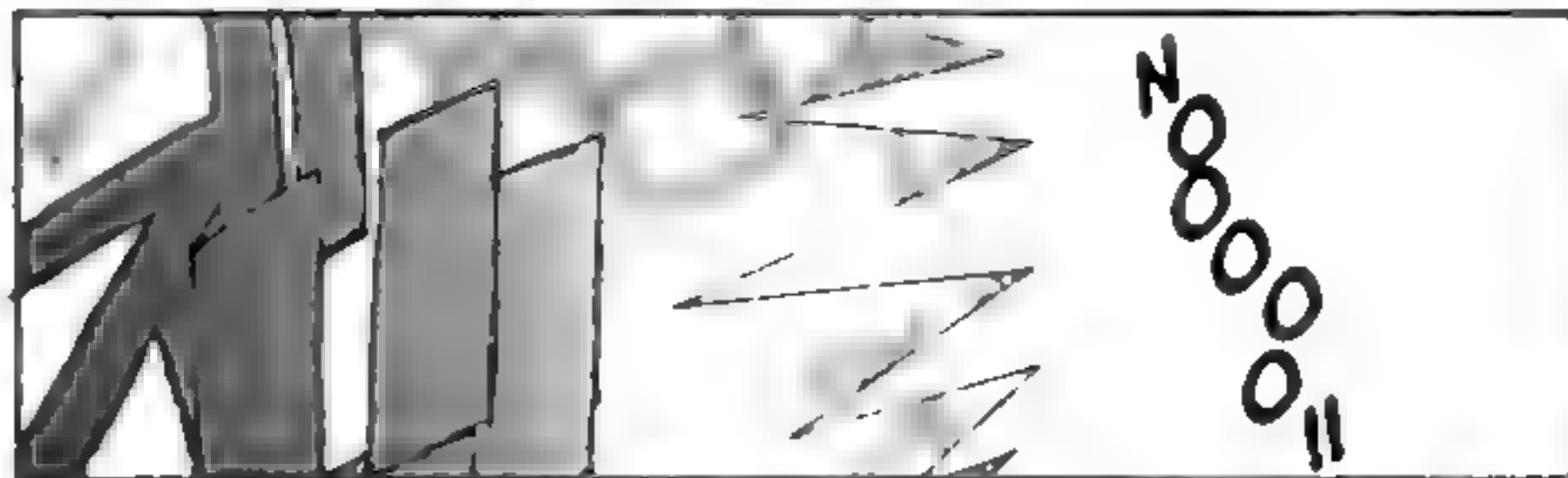






QUICK--COVER
YOURSELF WITH
THIS INSULATION
ROSEN

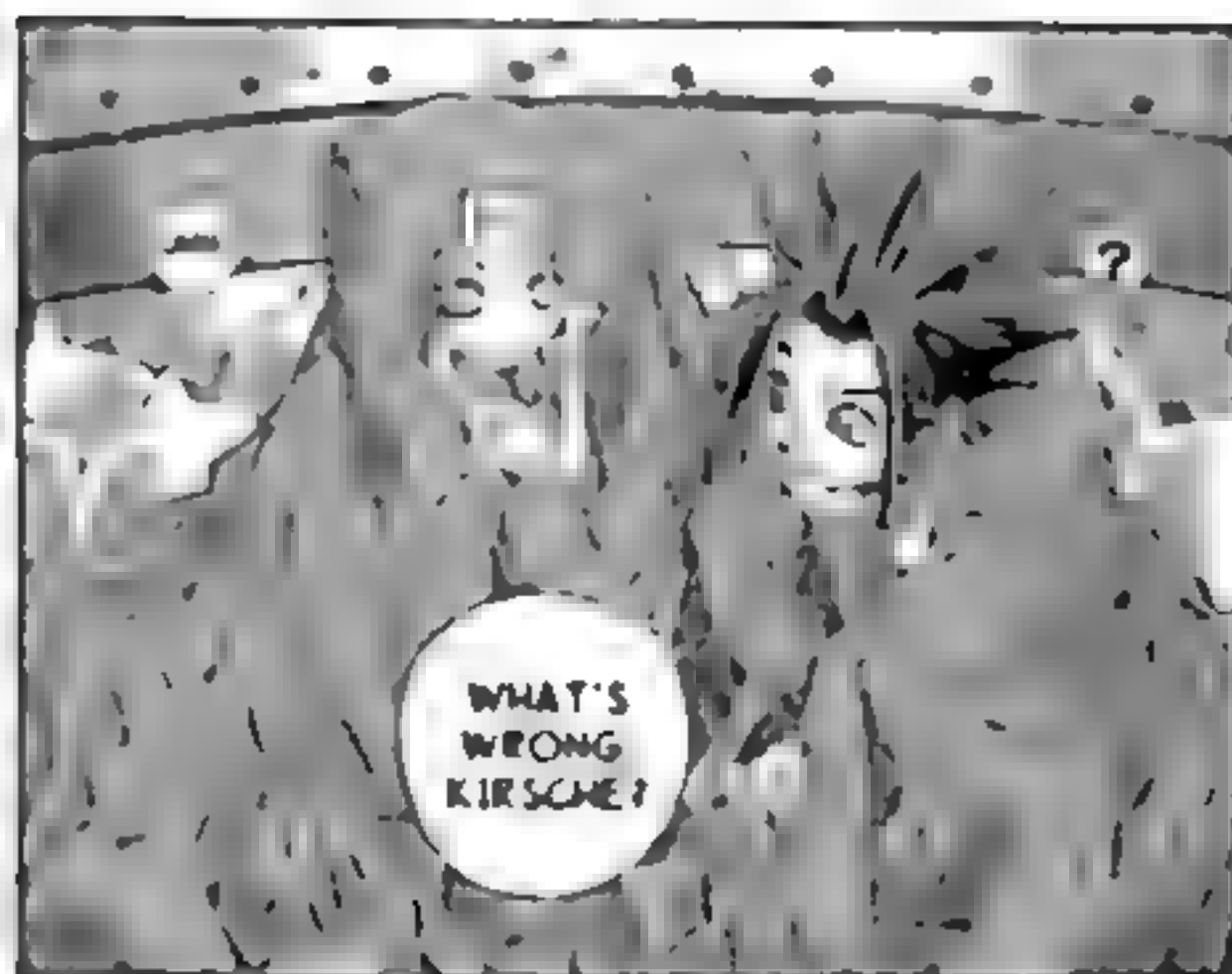




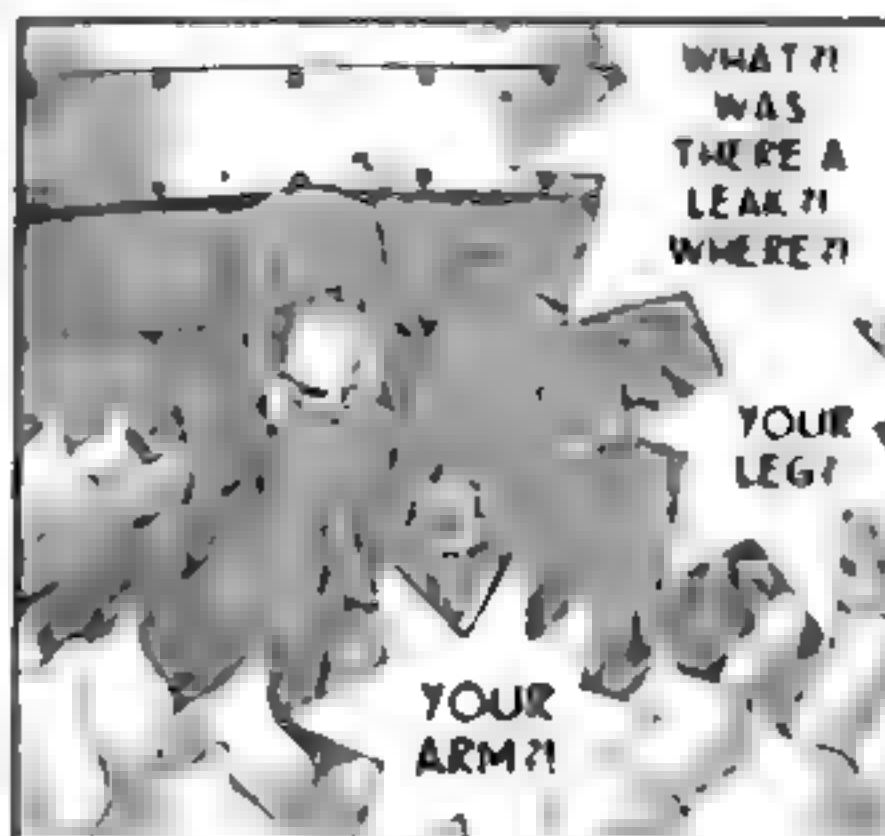


OH...

.. NO
IT FEELS
LIKE...



WHAT'S
WRONG
KIRSCH?



WHAT?
WAS
THERE A
LEAK?
WHERE?

YOUR
LEG?

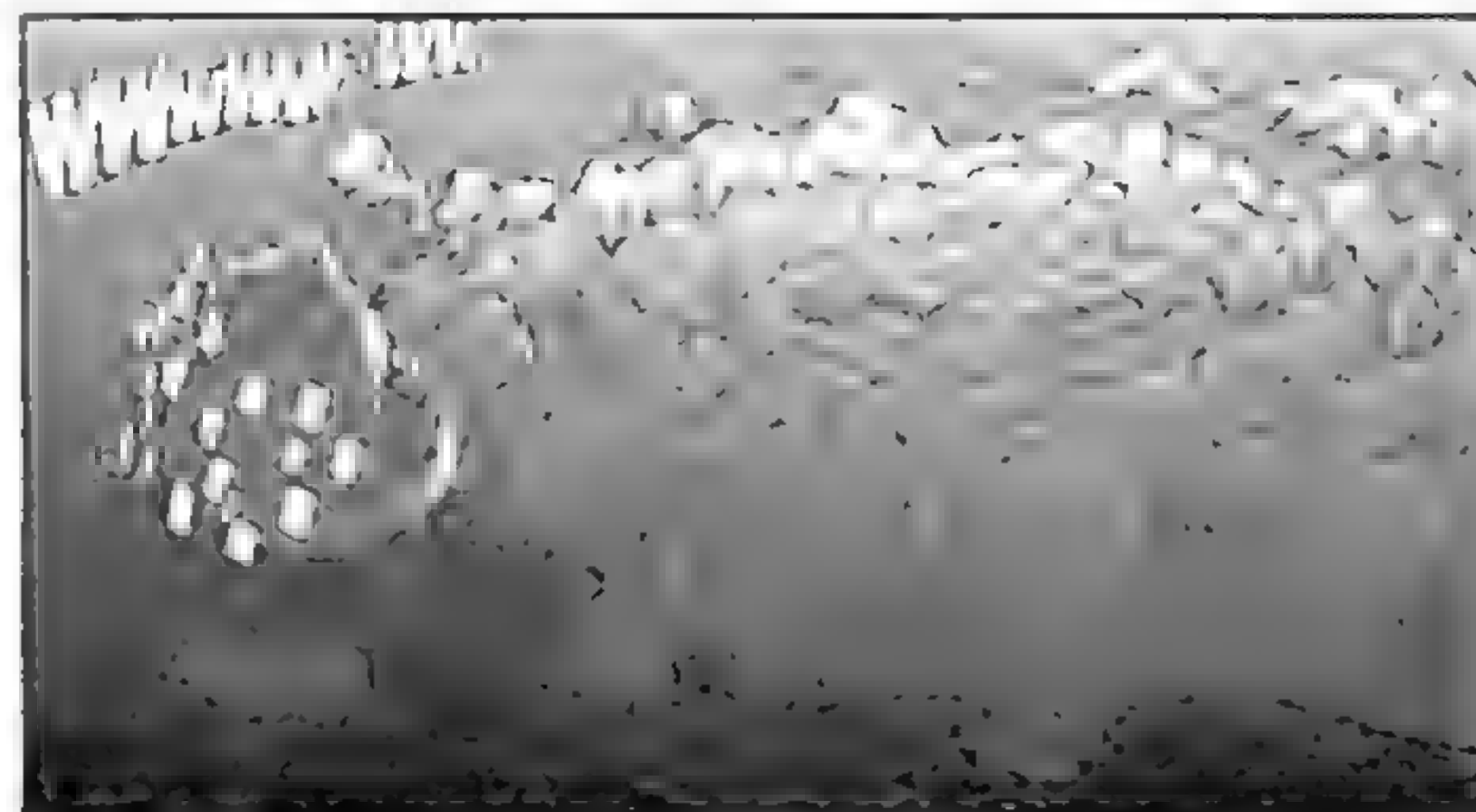
YOUR
ARM?



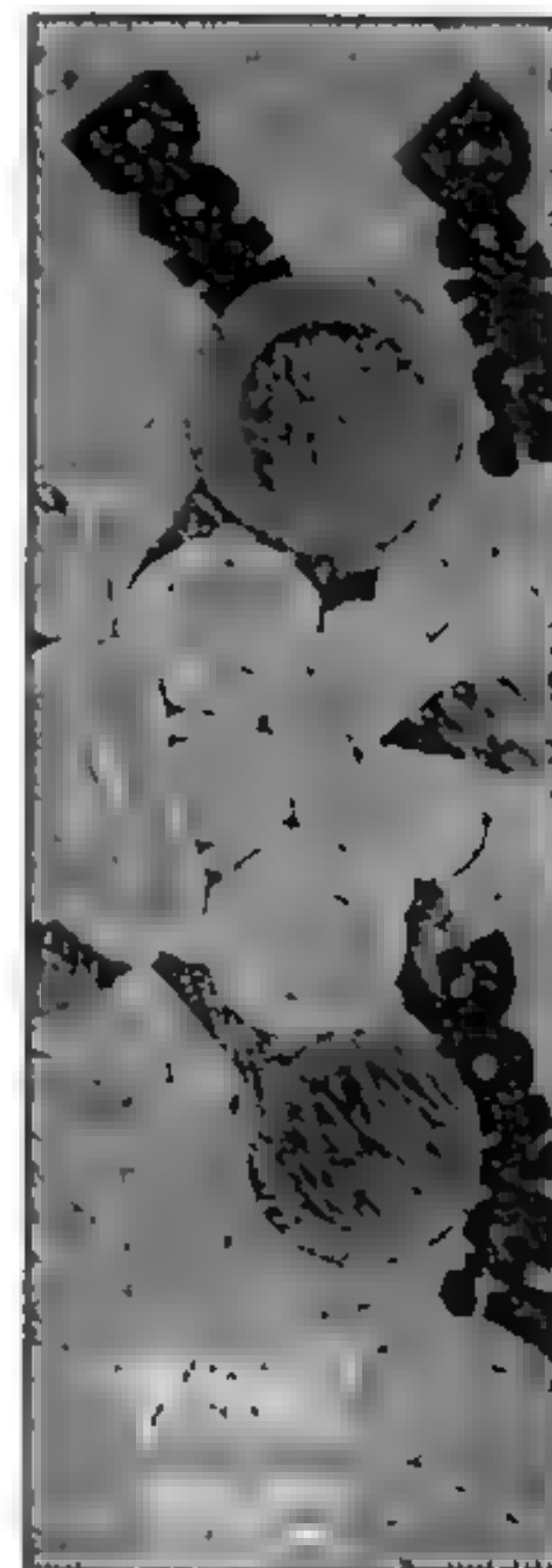
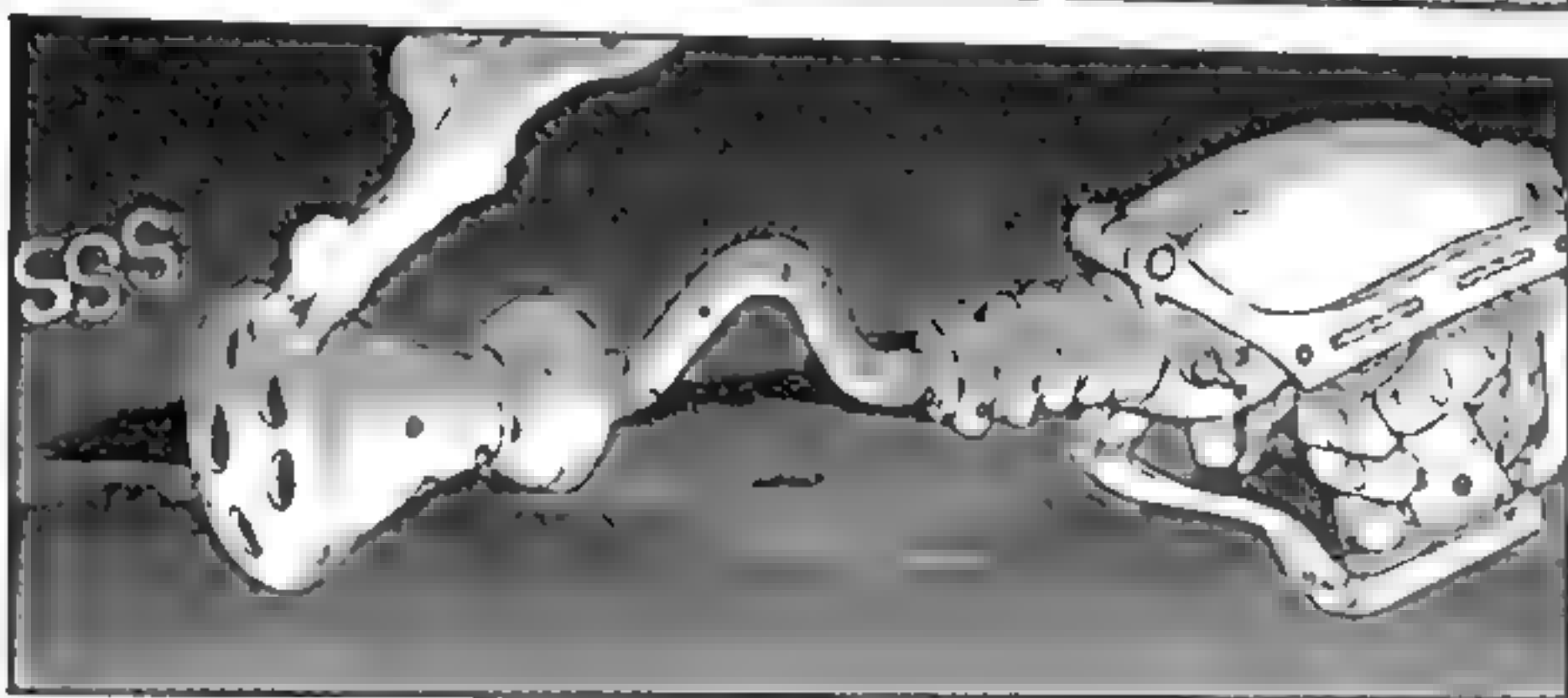
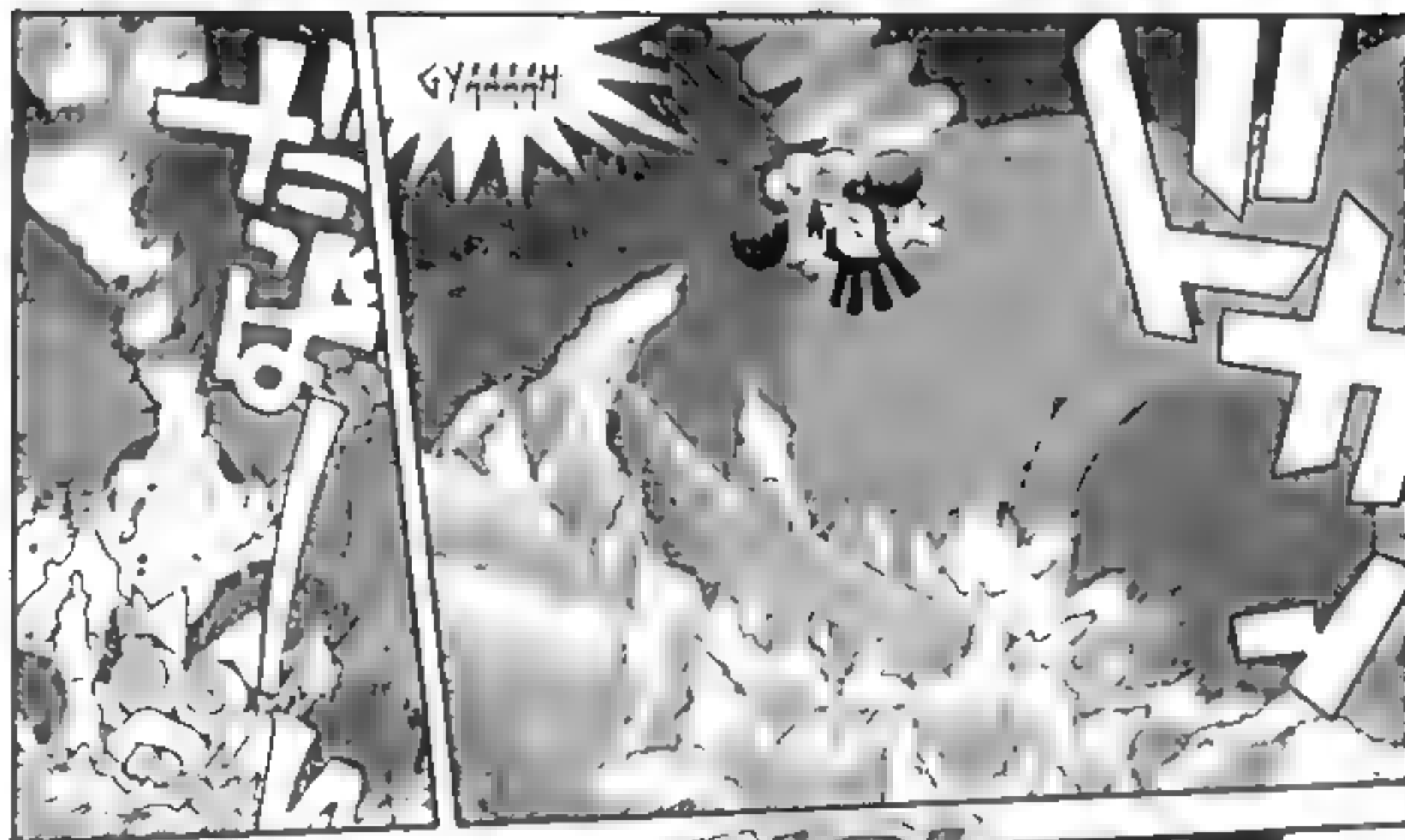
I GOT AN
ELECTRIC
SHOCK
AFTER ALL



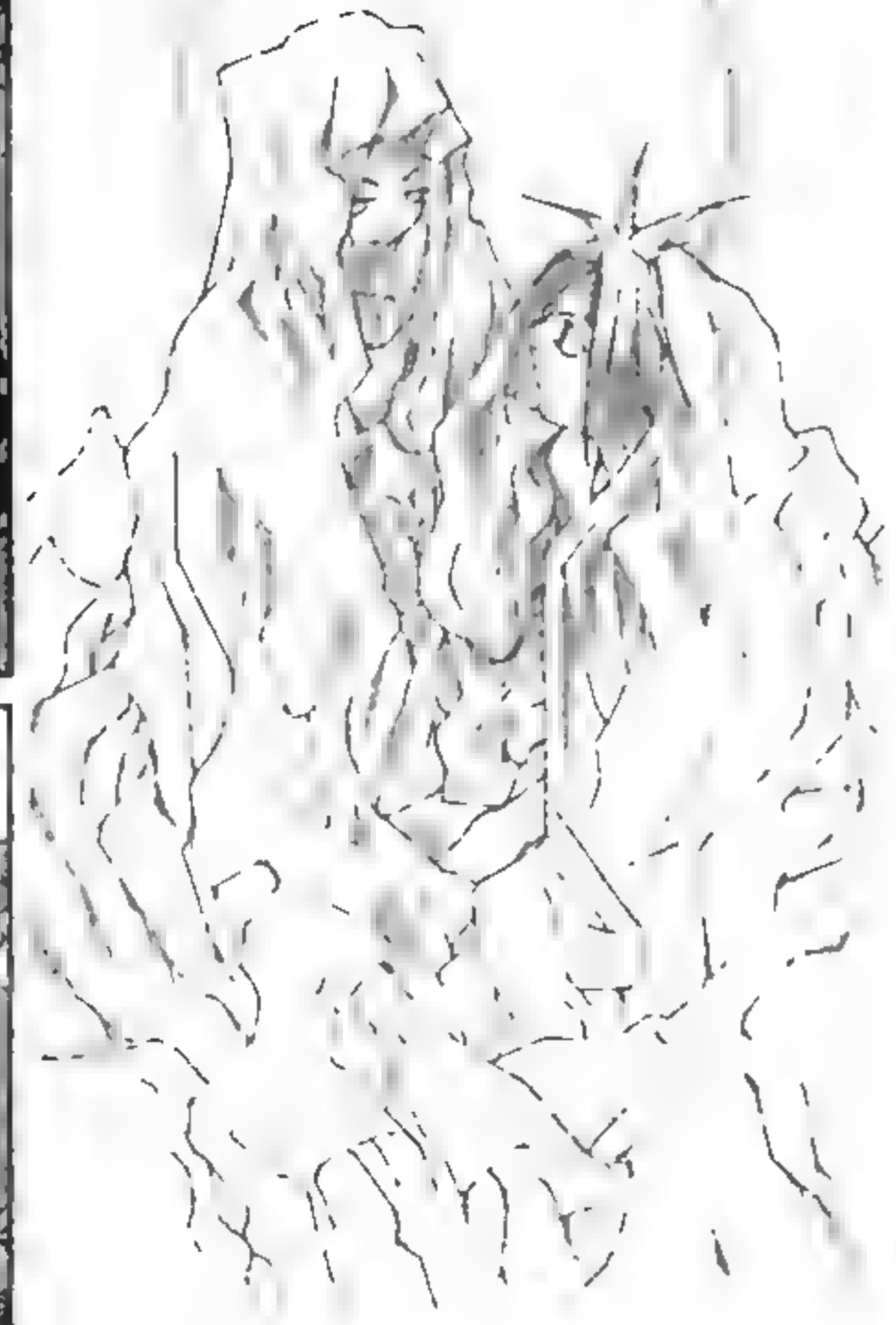
NO NOTHING
LIKE THAT

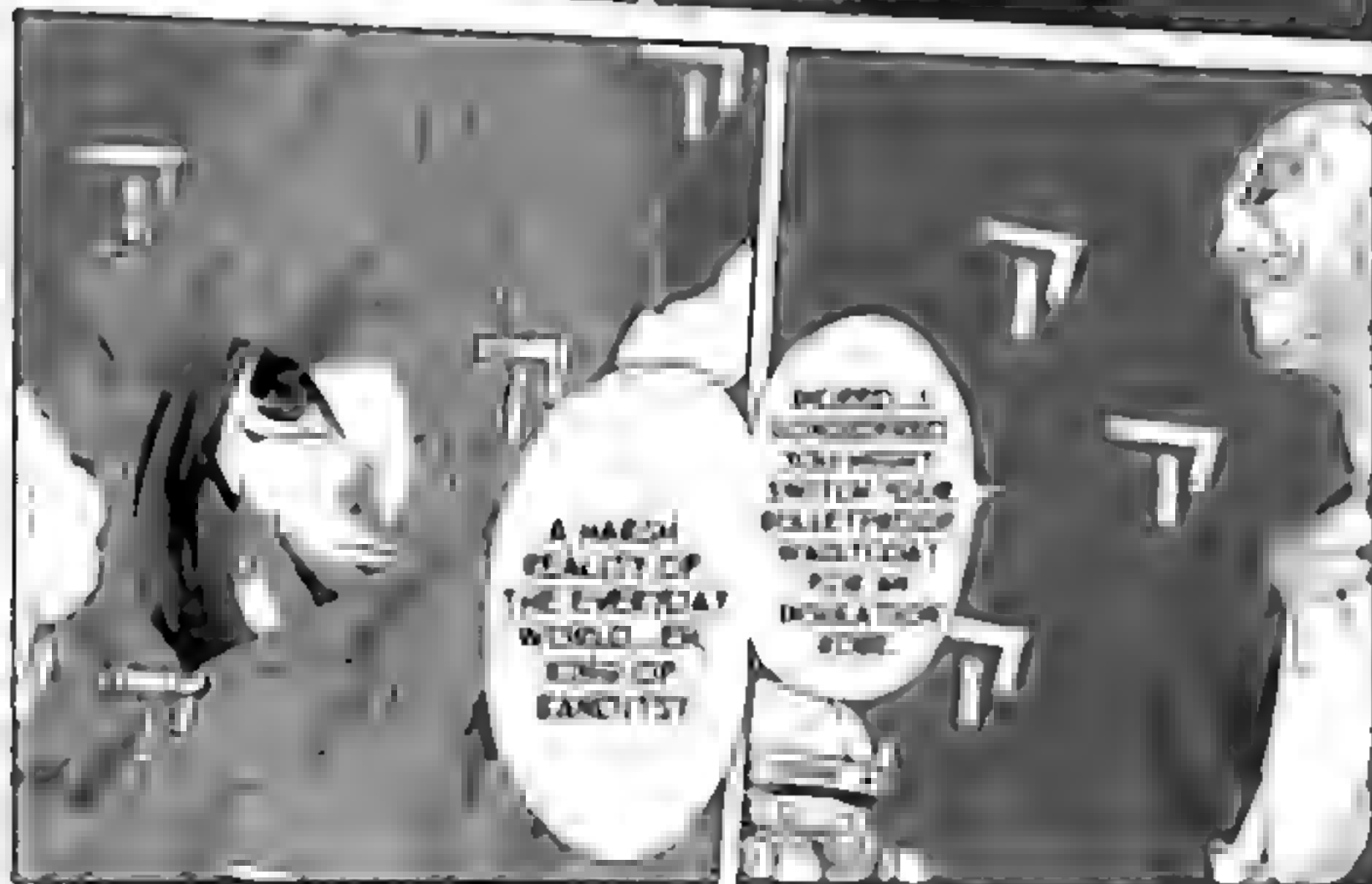


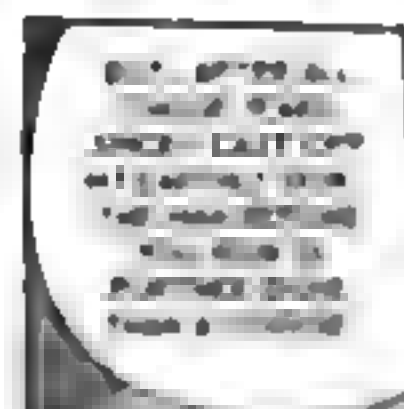
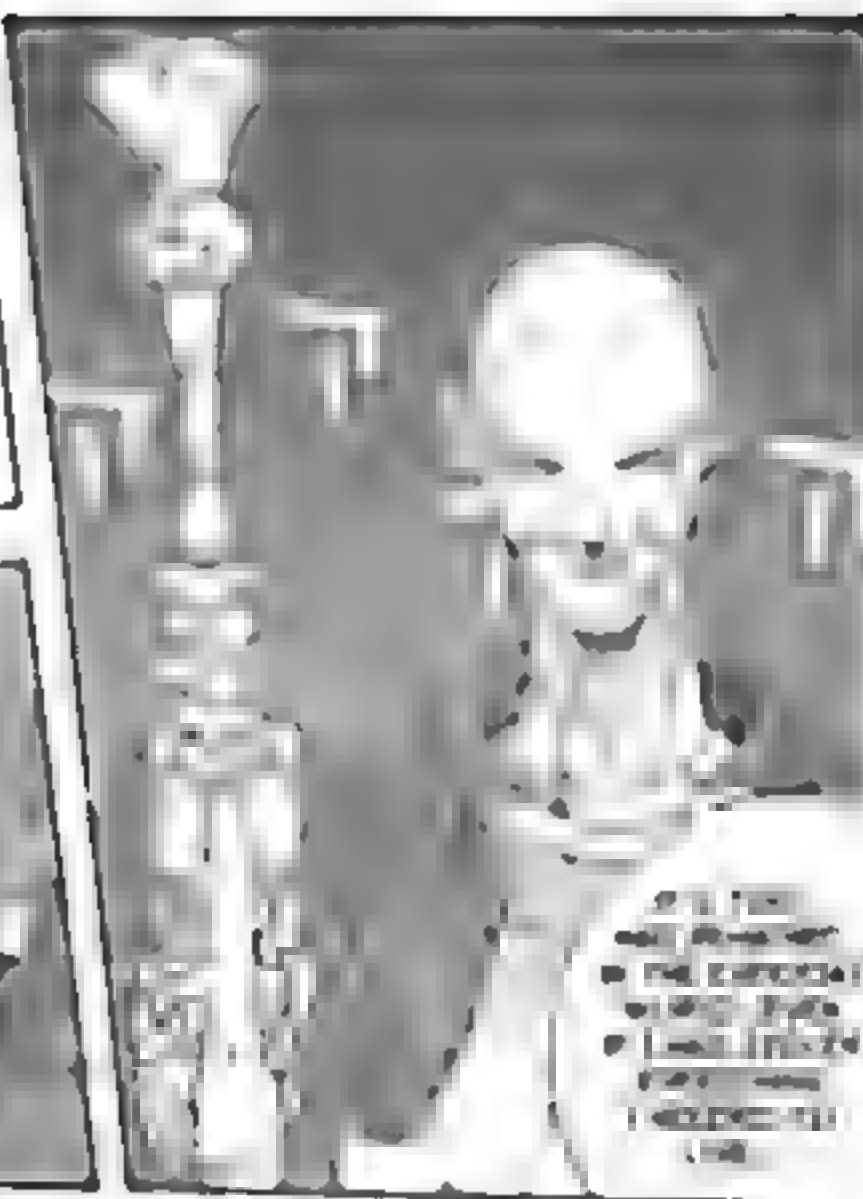
JUST
YOU WAIT!!

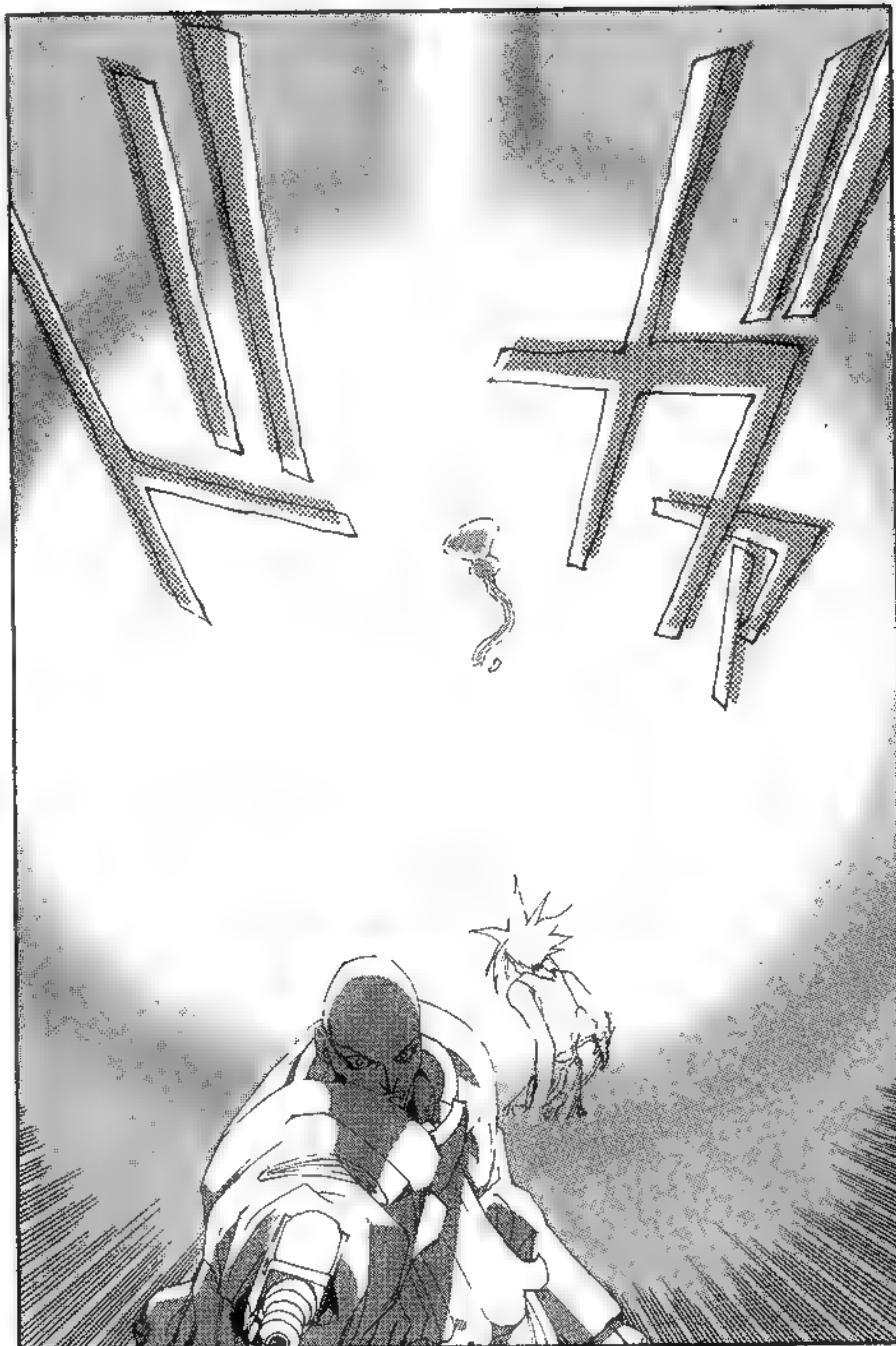
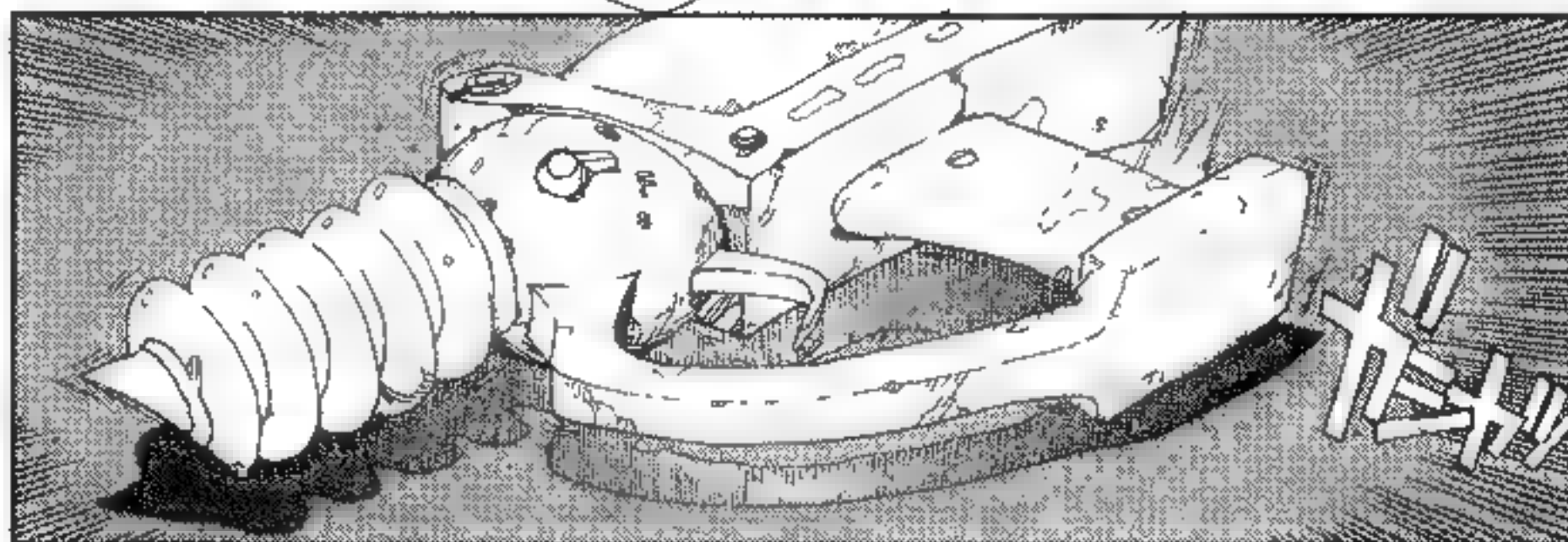
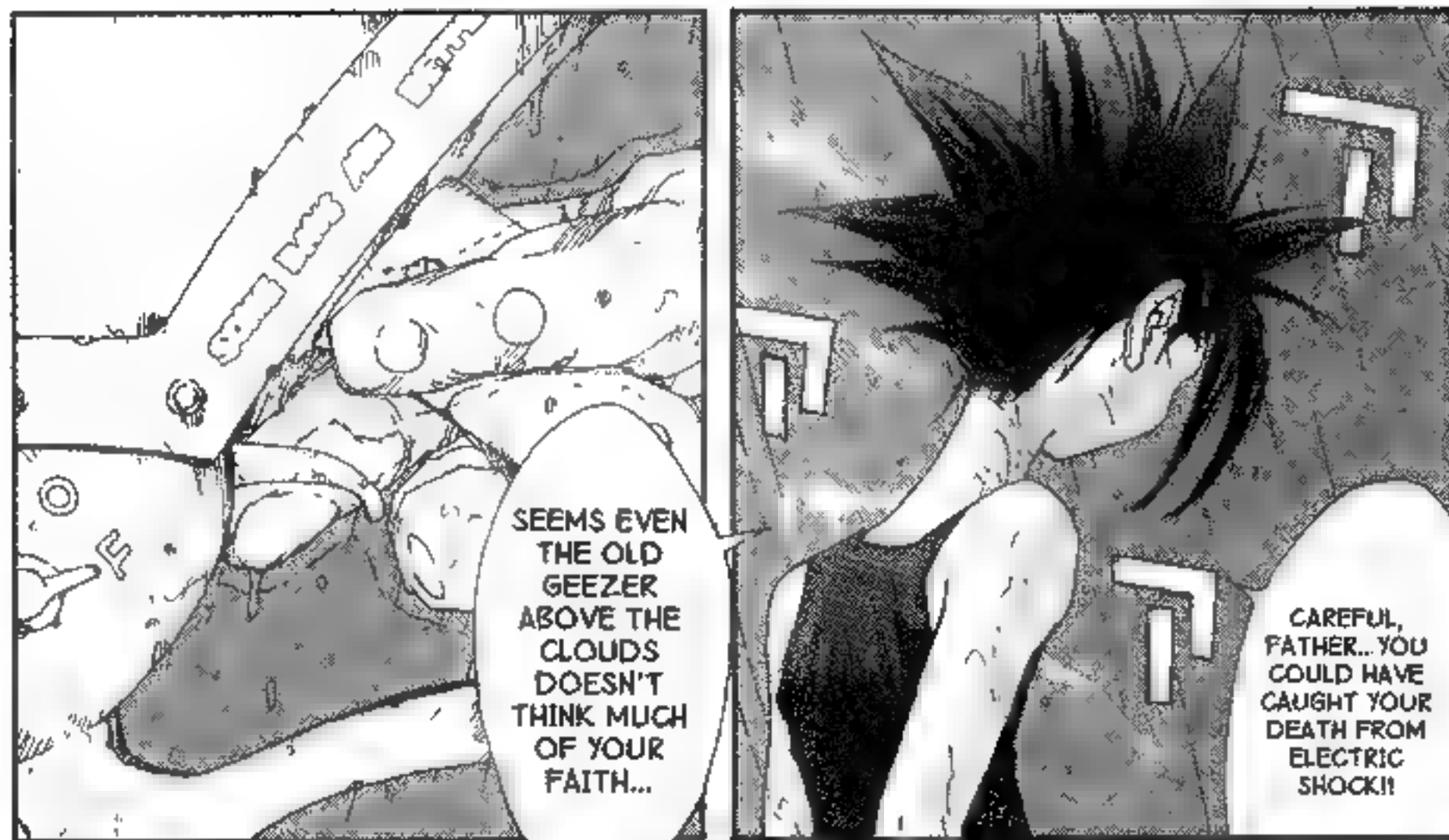


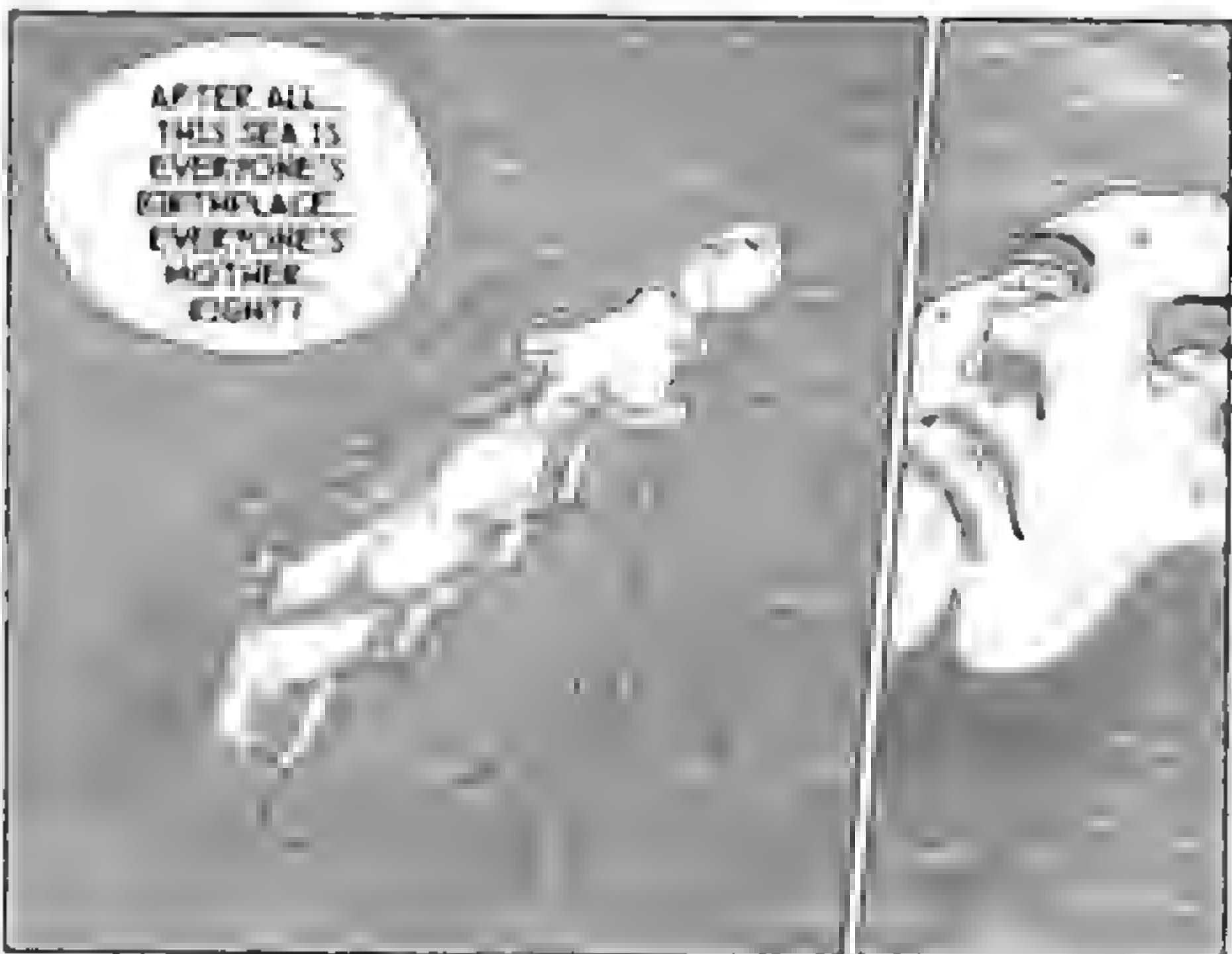
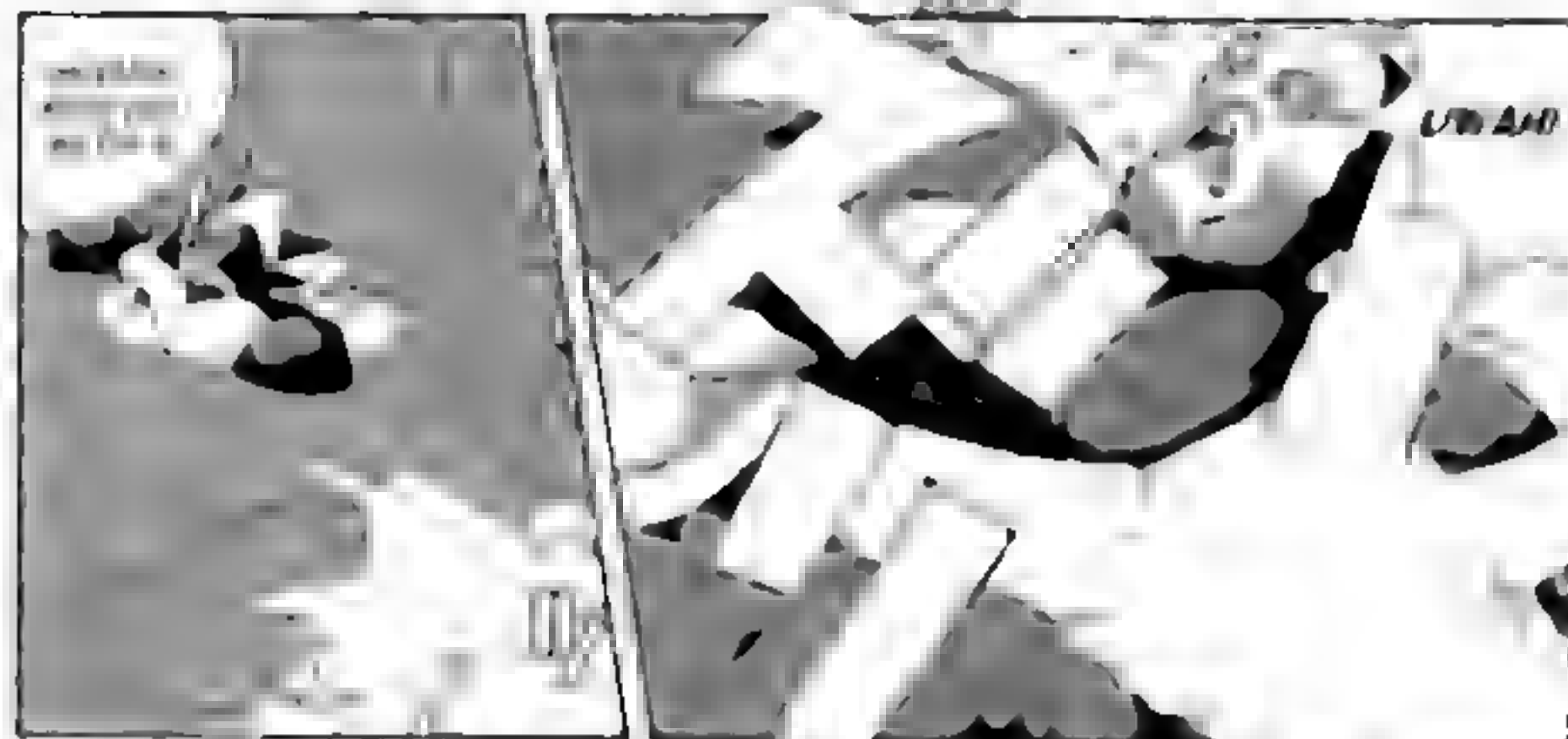
IT'S MORE LIKE A STRANGE BURNING SENSATION.. INSIDE.

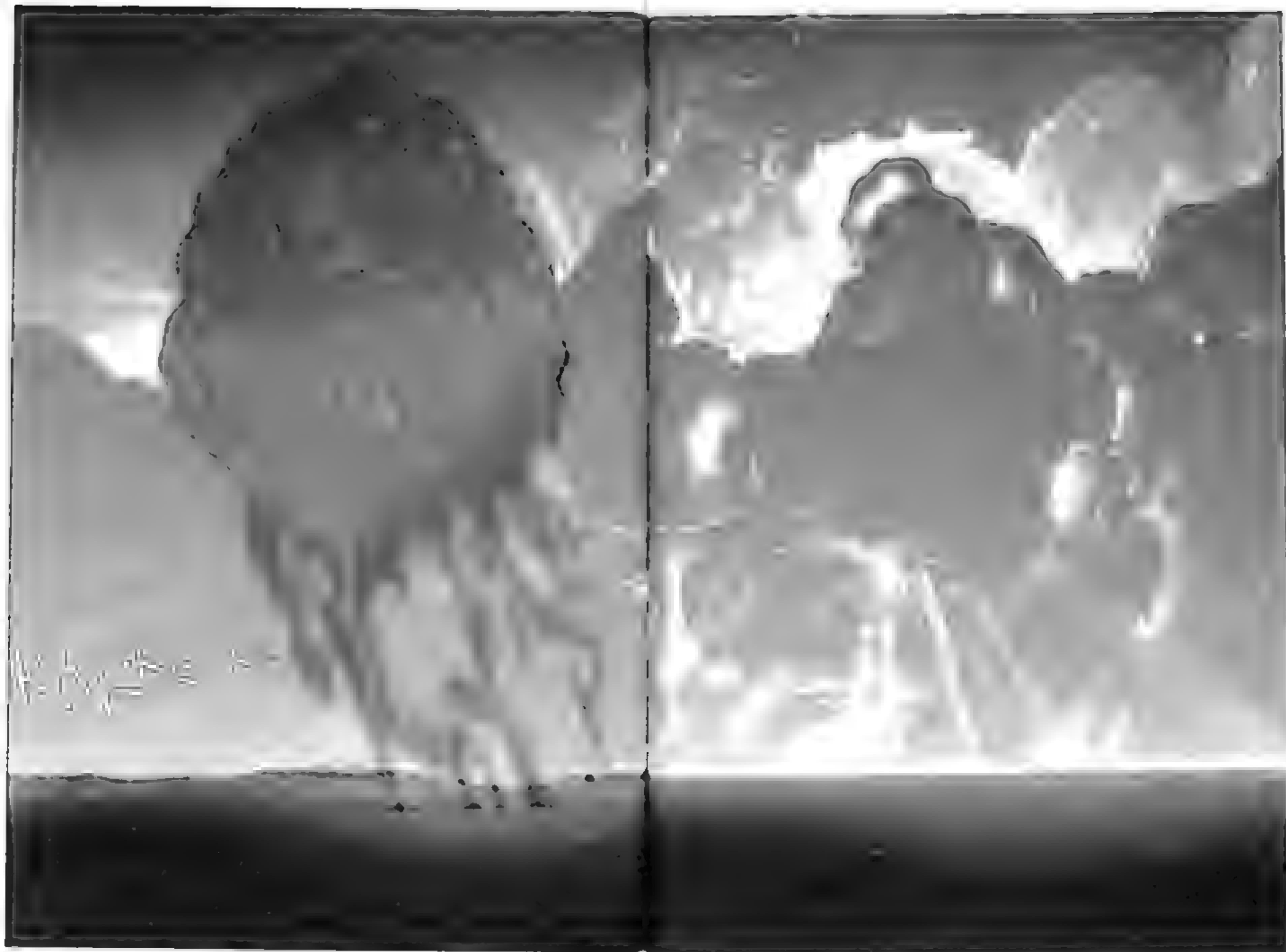














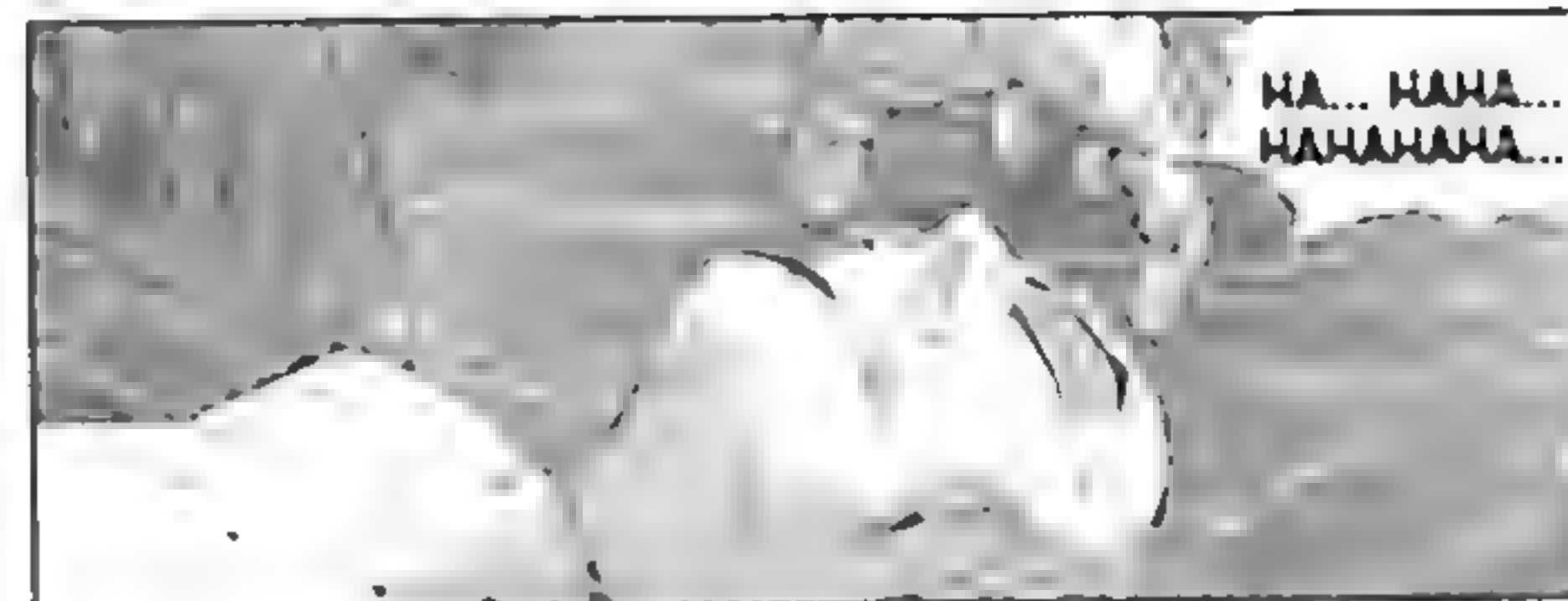
COME ON
OVER
KUSOBE
THE WIND
PEELS
GREAT



IT'S A GOOD IDEA
TO GO TO THE
MOUNTAINS
AND FIND A
PLACE TO LIVE



ALMOST AS IF
THERE'S NO ONE
HERE BUT US



HA... HAHA...
HAHAHAHA...



HAHAHAHAHAHA!!!

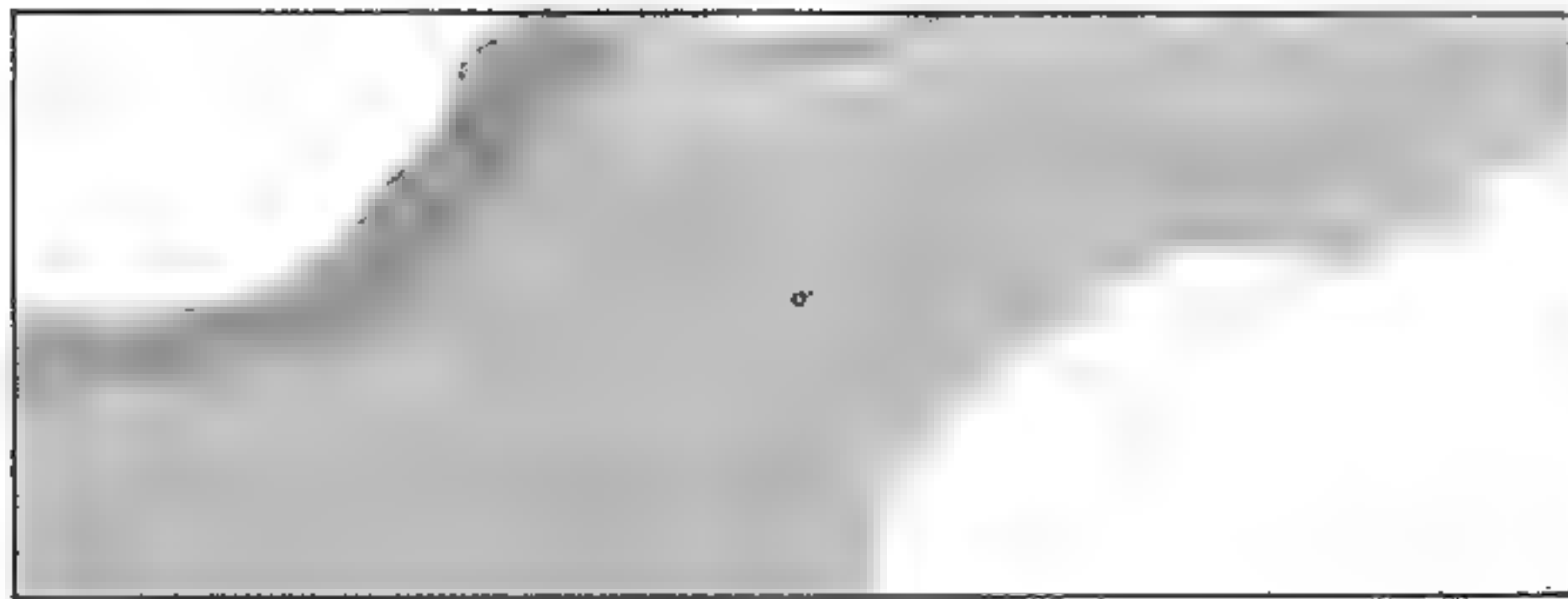
HAHAHA!
HAHA!!



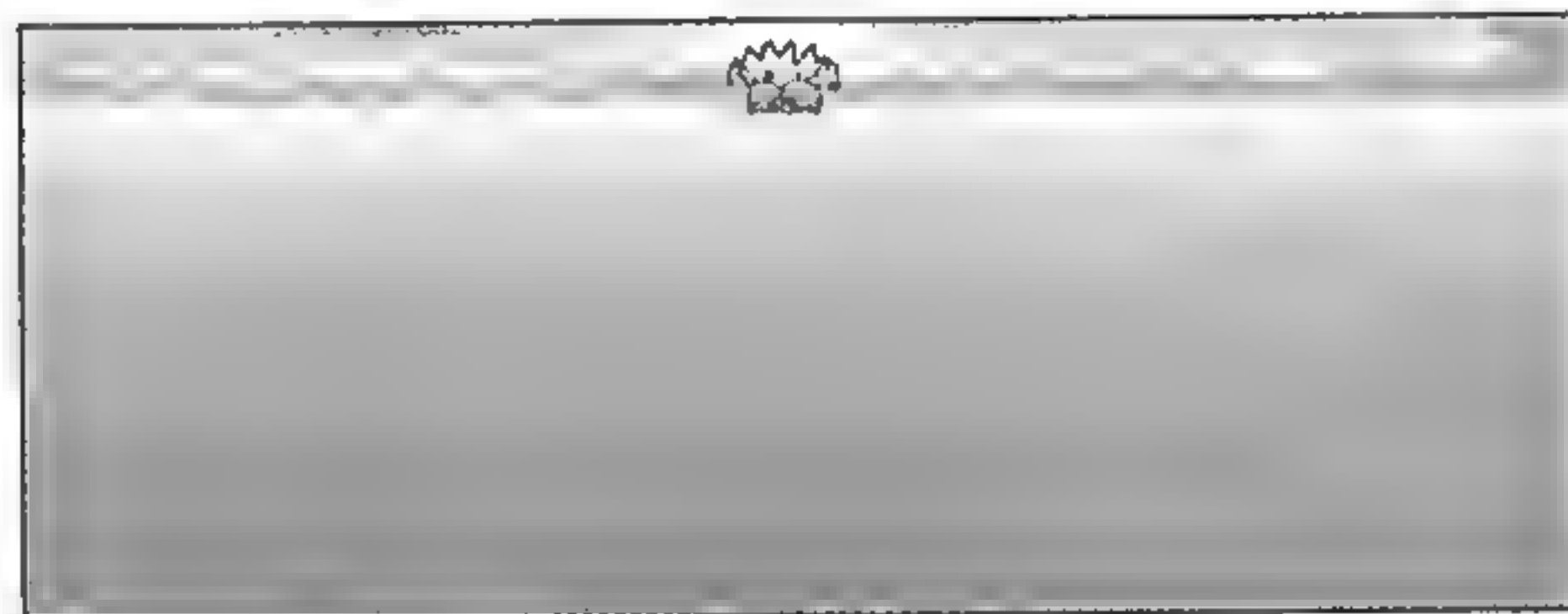
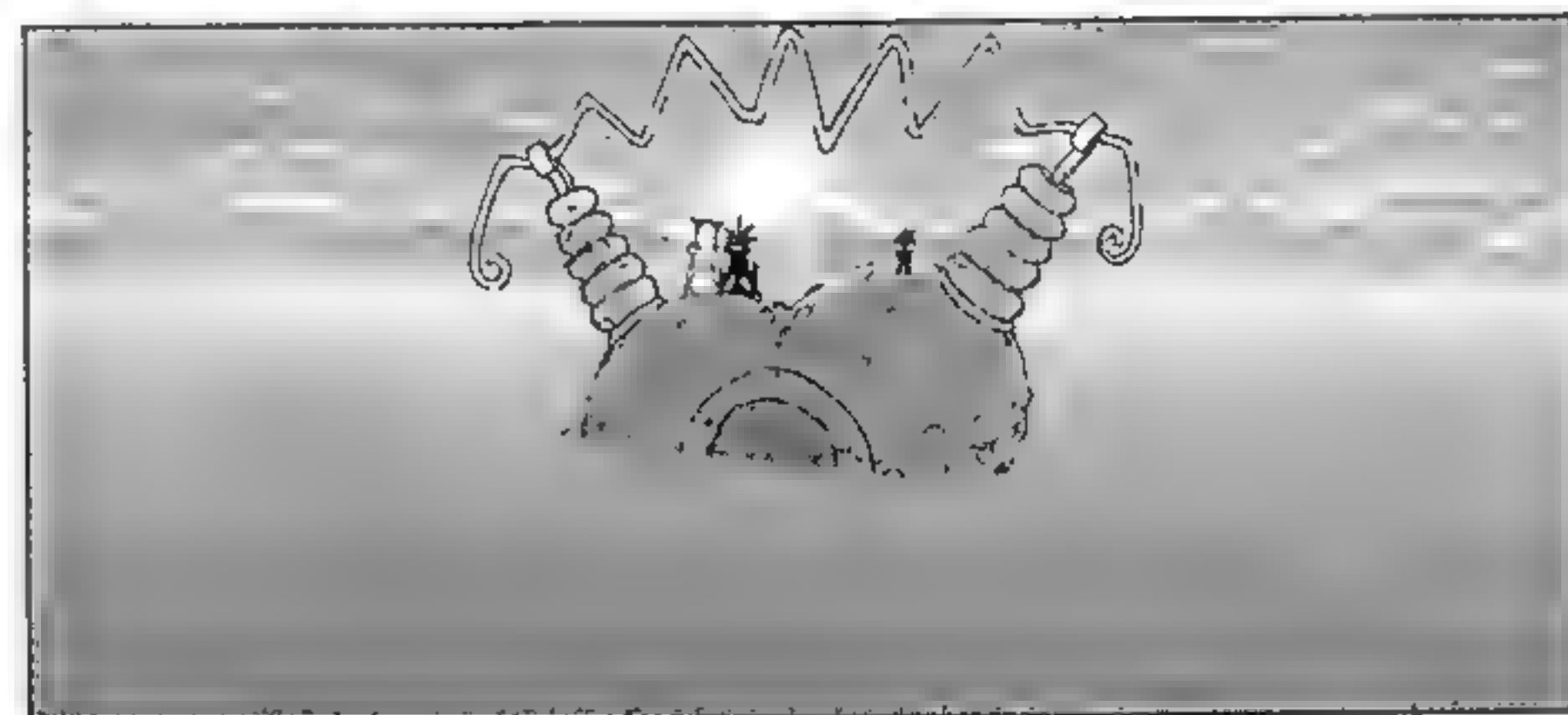
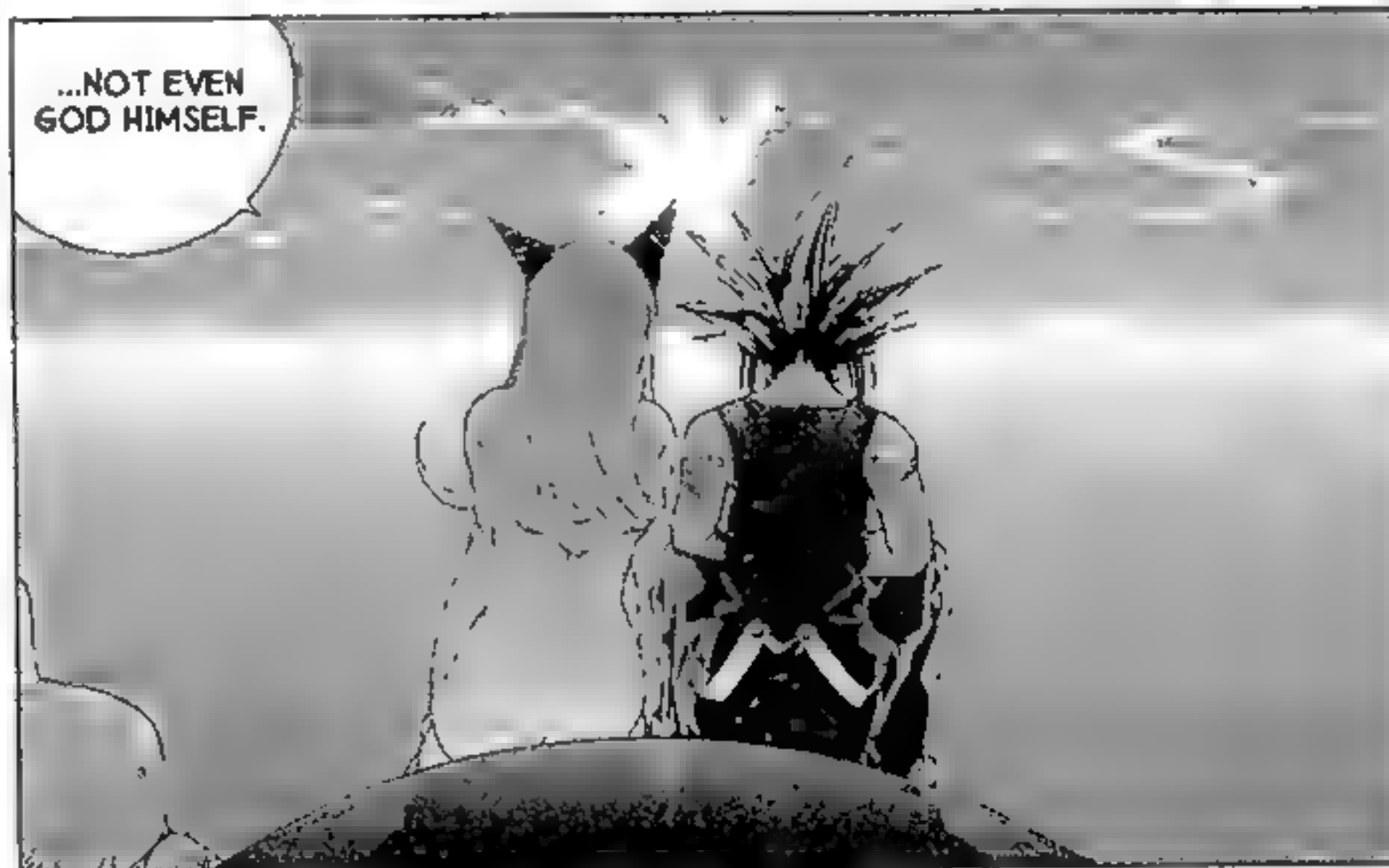
HERE
KITTY KITTY
KITTY



IT'S A GOOD IDEA
TO GO TO THE
MOUNTAINS
AND FIND A
PLACE TO LIVE

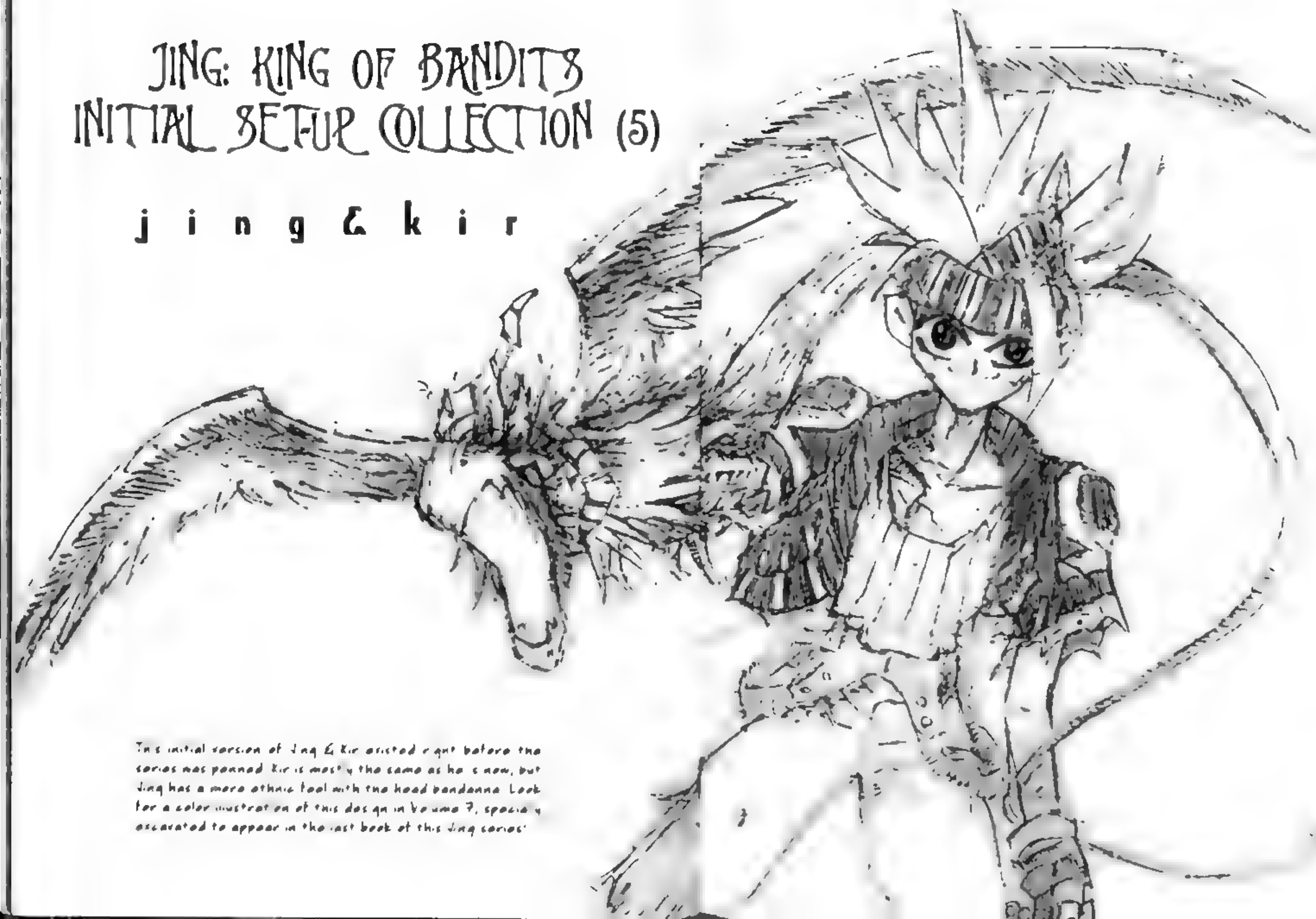


...NOT EVEN
GOD HIMSELF.



JING: KING OF BANDITS INITIAL SETUP COLLECTION (5)

j i n g & k i r



This initial version of Jing & Kir existed right before the series was planned. Kir is mostly the same as he is now, but Jing has a more ethnic feel with the head bandanna. Look for a color illustration of this design in Volume 7, specially excused to appear in the last book of this Jing series!

j i n g b

"A boy thief who equips himself with creature, and weapons." This was the very first concept for Jing. Drawn with it was a small dog, a charming sidekick with a runny nose.



j i n g a

Another rendering of the previous page's Jing and Kir. Kir playing off the dumb straight man is downright laughable. That extra-large rucksack in Jing's left hand is filled with various stolen goods and treasures, no doubt.

YER STEPPIN'
ON MY FOOT!



Meanwhile, here is a bird-type partner. In other words, an incarnation that came close to Kir By himself, Jing just looks like a treasure hunter, an explorer rather than a thief. Also, his facial expression looks almost gentle when compared with the current version.



j i n g c

High Praise For Takahata Isao

A giant fish that flew in the sky and was attracted by the light from the temple. However, although Jing saw it, the giant fish took him by force, and one of the bittens looked up into the vortex sky. This image had a source in "Tale of Tales," a work of Russian animation artist Yuri Norstein. In it, a fish, that is being chased escapes to the sky, as a cat leaps up and gives a sorrowful cry.

Stray Cats

"Neraneke" in English means STRAY CATS, but it is in close conjunction with an expression frequently used in Christianity, STRAY SHEEP (mayoruru bokitsujii). This name, which has a double meaning, was created for the bittens Kirsche leads, likening them to devout sisters who serve God.

Electricity Killed The Cat

These words were written throughout the town, a parody of a saying in English, "CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT" (Curiosichin, nake wo korosu). Roughly, it means that nothing goes right when you stick your nose into things that aren't your business. But with the change from CURIOSITY to ELECTRICITY, it has come to be a slogan of another kind that expresses the Stray Cats' sense of respect towards electricity.

Let There Be Light

These are famous words from the Old Testament, which tells of the time when God created the world, but the religion that appears within this work has no direct relationship whatsoever with Christianity. Rather, regarding these words as an ignition point, it would be better to think about a new religion that accomplished an original evolution. The Cahier sect is a different denomination from that of Kirsche and the gang—that is, while showing respect to the same thing [God=light], one side assumes light should be distributed to everyone, and the other assumes it should be monopolized.

Warrior Of The Rising Sun

It is a well-known fact that "Hi Izurukoro No Tenshi" is a masterpieces manga, in which Yamagishi Ryusko depicted Shoutoku Taishi in an unprecedented vision. One letter off that title is the name of this fighter, assumed to have come from the Far East, who becomes the center of the "mascorrida" storm. A newspaper caption turns the name into "Rising Son," but this is intentional. Although the original meaning refers to a sunrise, the other meaning connotes that the "son" candidate is rising quickly among the ranks...so, both are implied.

And Now, A Question For The Ages...

Often, in fan letters and the like, we come across questions like, "Does Tamori Wataru-sensai of Rebotto Ponbottsu," now appearing serialized (2001 to current) in the monthly publication comic Bonbon, have any relationship with Kumakura-sensai?" We will answer that question here. Yes, there is a relationship. Tamori-sensai was once Kumakura-sensai's assistant. But did you know that Tamori-sensai made a cameo appearance in the "Zaza" book? There was a cask-headed man among the townspeople, who were in an uproar about a sudden tremor under their feet during the confrontation with Baffla as our heroes left the mask cafe. That was him.

Even Stars Sparkle

You'll find that in a lot of Jing's stories, the sun and the moon play an important part. In this "Zaza" book, the Countess is liberated from her reverie of the past upon seeing the brilliance of the morning sun. It is probably not a mistake that this repeated motif brings out emotions of a similar scale in Jing.

- Volume 6 -

Could Be A World Legacy

Aviation's mysterious spectacle, where strange rocks protrude in countless numbers. It is not exactly clear where they begin, but it brings to mind that land of mystery, Cappadocia—a large, picturesque place in Turkey somewhere. It is said that young Christian monks settled there in secret and cultivated their own personal culture on one side of the wastelands, where many strange rocks like these stand close together.

Conceal the Head...

There is a work of reportage called "The Island of Sakhalin" by Anton Chekhov, a Russian author. Within it is a passage telling of a bird on death's door that had its feathers plucked before taking its flight from life. It is as though Kir's desperate infiltration campaign was somehow or another inspired by [this anecdote.

Color City

There is a song with the name "Color City" on Donuki Taeko's album, *Cliche*. Its pop music gave the impression of regarding colorful images as having a rhythmical melody all their own.

Burning House Of Ice River

The image of a burning house is sometimes used as a Buddhist symbol for setting ablaze the world of worldly desire and suffering. But to the house's owner, Quart, whose personal ideals could not be achieved in this world, it symbolized that the living world was equivalent to his own personal "Hell."

Gobanme No Youso=Fifth Element

Obviously, director Luc Besson's super epic sci-fi film.

It's Like Having Drawn the Picture Completely...

All sorts of artist's supplies were incorporated into the backgrounds and props, which was appropriate for the subject matter in the "Color City" book. The factory where Jing & Fino took refuge used paintbrushes as smokestacks. And the armed group that chased after Fino carried compass-type machine guns.

Director David Lean's Work

There is a beautiful sequence from "Doctor Zhivago," a 1965 English film, in which two lovers are living in a deserted house that appears to be decorated in snow and ice. Whether or not it was a direct reference is unknown...but does this image not give an impression similar to the Quart mansion, where the ice river was hidden?

"Two Powers Dominate Space, Light And Gravity"

These words were spoken like an incantation by the two Cahier sect believers who targeted the lives of Jing and the gang as they arrived in Fuzzy Navel. In fact, these are the words of an actual philosopher, Simone Weil, a female thinker from France. There is one passage within her masterpiece, "Le Pesantour et la Grace," which collected these words. Perhaps the believers of the Cahier sect chose to bend and interpret these words, which originally held a similar sentiment to the above-mentioned "Let There Be Light," as an excuse to toy with the lives of heretics.

Solid Gold Batteries

I have never heard of any actual instances of mercury batteries turning into solid gold batteries. However, in the Jing world, it is as if a technique of producing electricity from gold really does exist. It certainly gives the impression of being the highest grade dry cell battery, but it appears that people's chief interest is in the value of the gold itself, and that they are being exchanged solely as gambling chips.

Jing on Air

ON AIR is an expression used in radio and television broadcasts, but this story, borrowing only the nuance of the words, tried to leave the impression of Jing actually riding an electro-magnetic wave and dancing into the air.

- Volume 7 -

Tattooed Heart

One could say that this episode's subtitle, "Tattooed Heart," was an outstanding title that splendidly expressed the work's theme, but it originally came from an album title of Aaron Neville, an African-American musician. Rather, it may be said that this subtitle existed before the contents of the story were established. Sources for the idea were, in fact, various.

*edited by
Kick The
Kitty*



Scantation

RANDOM

A black and white illustration of a cat-like character with long hair and a tail, seen from behind, looking out over a body of water. The word "RANDOM" is written in a stylized font on the water's surface.